

# THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION RECORD

---

OUR NEW PRESIDENT

LIFE AND THE LIBRARIAN:  
ASPECTS OF BIOLOGICAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

THEOLOGICAL AND PHILOSOPHICAL  
LIBRARIES IN SCOTLAND

NON-BOOK MATERIALS IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES

FOREST GATE BRANCH, WEST HAM

THE COUNTRY LIBRARY SERVICE IN GERMANY

LULOP AND THE NORTH WESTERN LIST

A VISUAL AID TO BOOK CHARGING METHODS

— *Insert* —

LIAISON

Library Association News-Sheet

VOL. 61 NO. 12

DECEMBER 1959

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## A Librarian's Calendar

January 6th.—Reference, Special and Information Section (S.E. Group). 5.30 p.m. Sherry party at the Nature Conservancy, 19 Belgrave Square, London, S.W.1. Tickets, 6s, from Mrs. Stokes, University of London Institute of Education. (Please enclose stamped addressed envelope when writing.)

January 19th.—N.W. Polytechnic, Prince of Wales Road, N.W.11, 3 p.m. C. W. Hanson on "Public relations in special libraries".

January 20th.—Scottish L.A. (East Branch), Falkirk. Visit to Messrs. Dunn & Wilson Ltd. Scottish L.A. (West Branch), Ayr P.L., 3 p.m. Address by Elizabeth Kyle.

Youth Libraries Section (North West Branch). Afternoon and evening meeting, Preston P.L. 3 p.m. Book discussion on nominations for Carnegie and Kate Greenaway medals; tea; A.G.M. and talk by Elfrida Vipont on "The world of children's books".

January 21st.—Eastern Branch and A.A.L. (Eastern Div.), Norwich P.L. A.G.M. Speaker: H. D. Barry.

January 27th-29th.—L.A. Committee and Council Meetings.

January 27th.—Youth Libraries Section (Scottish Branch), Coatbridge, 3 p.m. Symposium on "Story-telling", including tape-recording by Miss E. H. Colwell.

January 28th.—Circle of State Librarians, 6 p.m. Visit to War Office Library.

February 1st.—Closing date for titles for L.A. Carnegie Medal and Kate Greenaway Medal awards.

February 3rd.—Northern Branch, A.G.M., Shire Hall, Durham.

February 4th.—Reference, Special and Information Section (S.E. Group), A.G.M. Chaucer House.



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## The Library Association Record

Chaucer House, Malet Place, London, W.C.1

Editor: A. J. Walford, M.A., Ph.D., F.L.A.

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# THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



*Publication January/February*

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# The Library Association Record

DECEMBER 1959

## Editorial

THE editorship of the RECORD is about to change hands, after a period of seven years. Those years have seen some significant changes. In international librarianship, there has been a rapid growth of exchanges of posts and visits abroad (not least the recent visit to this country by three eminent Russian librarians). Users' tastes and requirements have altered, and TV has provided further challenges to our outlook. Public librarians have been much concerned with the Roberts Report, and with staffing matters (which will receive further attention with the Library Association's designation of professional and non-professional posts). The technology drive emphasizes the ever-growing importance of the work of special libraries and technical college libraries, and the setting up of the National Lending Library for Science and Technology is a matter of concern to all. The prospect of a revised L.A. examination syllabus reflects our changing times and receding horizons. The title of one of the essays set for the prize-essay competition in 1958 was "A plea for a less parochial attitude towards librarianship". It is the earnest wish of the present editor that this plea be heeded and action taken thereon.

\* \* \*

In January, 1953, the editorial spoke of the "insatiable itch to put pen to paper which possesses many of us, librarians not least", and

again, "that the space available for articles . . . is strictly limited". This has proved to be a pious hope; lack of articles rather than shortage of space has plagued the editor. The literature on professional editorship of journals seems to assume that the least of an editor's worries is the flow of articles. This has not been the case with the RECORD in recent years. Perhaps there are too many library journals; perhaps there are too many critics along the touchlines who complain that their professional journal is dull and never gives them a lead, and yet they themselves do nothing to improve matters. It must not be thought that an honorary editor simply sits back and waits for material to come in. Had that been the case, the results would have been poor indeed. Requests for the scripts of papers read at meetings and the reprinting of likely articles in local newsletters, the commissioning of papers on topical subjects, the introduction of a prize-essay competition, these have been some of the devices used. On the other hand, the editor, even though short of material, must maintain suitable standards and try to strike a balance between different types of libraries and contrasting aspects of librarianship. It is hoped that Mr. J. D. Reynolds's editorship will see a livelier response, and that articles and other material will throng for his attention. We wish him, most sincerely, every success. And may *Liaison* long continue to provide its topical comments, with salt and spice to taste.



B. S. Page, M.A.

## Our New President

WHEN a working librarian becomes President, the choice falls on one who has already done great service to the Association and to librarianship and who has it in him to do much more. The choice is a personal one, but the election of Mr. Page will give special pleasure to the large section of the membership which knows him best. It is forty-six years since a university librarian occupied the chair. Several librarians of Oxford, Cambridge and Dublin helped to give the Association respectability and confidence in pioneering times, perhaps without much sense of belonging on either side. But Mr. Page is the first representative of the libraries of the modern universities, whose rise in number and in quality has been so notable a feature of recent educational history.

Bertram Samuel Page was born at Kidderminster in 1904, and his reputation as an interpreter of Greek philosophy was founded in his early days as a student at the University of

Birmingham. He had a large share in Stephen MacKenna's *Plotinus*, "one of the very few great translations of our time", and the second edition revised by him is probably to be found in more libraries than his *Manual of university and college library practice*, edited in collaboration with Mr. Geoffrey Woledge and published by the Library Association in 1940. But the new President does not lead a double life. In character he is manifestly neither the scholar strayed into librarianship nor the born administrator with a hobby, but an organizer of the advancement of learning to whom aims and methods are inseparable.

Mr. Page belongs by adoption to the dynasty of librarians, descended from R. W. Chambers at University College, London, which occupies in modern universities at home and in the Commonwealth a place like that of the Coburgs on the thrones of nineteenth-century Europe. In 1931, soon after Dr. Wilfrid Bonser had left University College to become Librarian of the University of Birmingham, he recruited Page as a coadjutor in reform. Experience there was an admirable preparation for his appointment in 1936 as Librarian of King's College, Newcastle, a post with opportunities for a young man of vision and determination. In 1947 Dr. Richard Offor, another of the Chambers school, retired from his historic tenure at Leeds, and Page succeeded him. Lord Brotherton's munificent benefactions and Dr. Offor's administration had long before established the Leeds library as a stimulating example to the other modern universities. It has continued to be so because Page has built imaginatively on strong foundations without losing his head in the orgy of post-war spending.

The new President has an impressive record of service on the Council of the Association and in its branches and sections, and an intimate and sympathetic acquaintance with most of its problems. As their public representative, the members may welcome in him one whose geniality and tested wisdom are supported by a powerful voice that rarely strikes a wrong note, and a readiness of speech that comes from a fulness of things worth saying.

# Life and the Librarian: Aspects of Biological Bibliography\*

By A. C. TOWNSEND, M.A., Librarian, *The British Museum (Natural History)*

**A**N annual lecture, besides providing a vehicle for "the customary harmless variations on hackneyed themes", may also provide an opportunity of venturing down some less-frequented by-ways, and of recalling the personality and achievement of some who might otherwise be advancing rapidly to engulfment in the mists of honoured oblivion. This is what I shall endeavour to do this evening, albeit all too imperfectly, though without digressing too blatantly, I hope, into what has been called "the Higher Padding". Some parts of my address may be rotten, like the embankment in Peacock's *Misfortunes of Elphin*, but you will remember that in that tale Seithenin held that the rotten parts of his embankment gave elasticity to those that were sound. If it were all sound, said he, it would break by its own obstinate stiffness: "the soundness is checked by the rotteness, and the stiffness is balanced by the elasticity" (1).

As to my title, which seems conveniently to cover everything, may I quote some remarks of Dr. Melvin A. Casberg, of the University of Texas, which seem to have a bearing on this matter of titles.

"The choice of a title," writes Dr. Casberg, "regardless of its relevancy to the content of the address, is of considerable significance to the audience. If the two are actually related, then the listeners will delight in the meanderings of the speaker as he delicately skirts, then forcefully hammers home his thesis, stroke after stroke, on the anvil of his title. Should there be no apparent or immediate association, then the most intriguing challenge of the hour may well be the intellectual exercise provided by the attempted correlation of the address and its title." (2).

Though you will doubtless find me a village rather than a harmonious blacksmith, let us now to our anvil.

We have been told that an elaborate bibliography is the strongest scaffolding upon which any research can be built; that documentation is a tradition of scholarship which science shares with other disciplines; that bibliography is the platitude of research, and so on, until we might well deem the barrel so scraped as to be devoid

of the slightest modicum of interest. Beset by such reflections I was therefore somewhat cheered to read quite recently some remarks of Mr. B. C. Vickery to the effect that historical knowledge helps the researcher to re-discover forgotten but fruitful ideas and to promote understanding of the manner in which a subject has developed (3). I was also reminded that the botanical bibliographer, J. Christian Bay, had said many years ago that the problems of scientific bibliography could only be solved by the attempts of individual investigators as far as lies within their own personal powers on the basis of the material produced by their precursors and supplemented by the results of their own efforts (4). So, largely confining my remarks to that branch of scientific bibliography about which I know anything at all, that of systematic biology, I shall endeavour firstly to recall the work and personality of some of the earlier workers in this field, and pass on to a rapid survey of the present position in the same field.

I shall start my historical account with the work of Johann Jacob Scheuchzer (1672-1733), a Zurich physician, whose *Bibliotheca scriptorum historiae naturali omnium terrae regionum inservientium* was published at Zurich in 1716. (I need hardly add that Conrad Gesner, an ancient "father of zoology", the "German Pliny", produced a botanical bibliography as long ago as 1545, but as the eighteenth century seems less shadowy than the sixteenth, and displays a quite astonishing versatility and range of intellectual interests, I have chosen to begin with Scheuchzer, who is also well known as having discovered a large fossil salamander which he exhibited to the world as a "human witness of the Deluge"—*Homo diluvii testis*.) Scheuchzer's octavo of 241 pages describes some 1,250 books and is arranged geographically. In his preface, the compiler suggests that his work should be the basis of a much fuller and indeed never-ending work, and he asks his readers to fill up gaps and correct any errors they may come across. He points out that although the study of nature demands, first and foremost, experimentation, "autopsy", and travel, bibliographical assistance—*subsidiaria Libraria*—and the study of the work

\* The substance of the Annual Lecture delivered to the Reference and Special Libraries Section on 18th March, 1959.

of other investigators are also necessary, however insignificant or trivial these may appear to be. Scheuchzer does not exclude fabulous stories, which merit and demand correction. He would doubtless have approved of expeditions to find the Loch Ness Monster, or the Abominable Snow Man.

Now systematic biology, or taxonomy, as it is often termed, is a subject which should interest the librarian, inasmuch as by Systematics is meant the order and logical classification of items of similar and different kinds. Plants and animals are classed in groups which are contained within larger groups, and it is of interest to note that, by the middle of the eighteenth century, the number of known species of animals had risen to nearly 4,400, which number has since grown to over a million, at a conservative estimate. The fundamental role played by nomenclature in systematics at once recalls the name of Carolus Linnaeus (1707-1778), who published his binomial system in 1753 for plants, and in 1758 for animals. Moreover, as the sciences of botany and zoology are above all descriptive sciences, they are to a very considerable extent historical subjects, the specialist finding it constantly necessary to refer back to the published literature in his chosen field. Furthermore, the importance of nomenclature implies that works of systematic importance do not become out of date. The starting-point for botanical nomenclature is 1753, the date of publication of Linnaeus's *Species plantarum*, first edition, and 1758 for zoological nomenclature, the year of publication of Volume 1 of the tenth edition of Linnaeus's *Systema naturae*. As Sir Gavin de Beer has pointed out, by the first consistent, general application of the principle of binomial nomenclature (the designation of a species by a two-word name), Linnaeus rendered science a service of inestimable value, without which further development would have been impossible (5). It is thus not surprising, perhaps, that a contemporary could write of Linnaeus that "he had brought forth nature out of obscurity", and that a saying gained currency to the effect that "Deus creavit, Linnaeus disposuit".

Much has already been written on the importance of Linnaeus in bibliography, an importance which is doubtless due to the essentially bibliographic nature of a large part of systematic biology. I have already mentioned the fact that the specialist in systematics has constantly to refer back to the earlier literature, and such, indeed, is the method of Linnaeus himself in his *Systema naturae*. Look at the rubric "Felis" in

Tome 1 of the 10th edition (1758) of this book, pp. 41-3. Seven species of *Felis* are listed there, all with references to previous writings, including those of such authors as Gesner, Aldrovandi and Ray. In his other works such as *Hortus Cliffortianus* (1738), *Critica botanica* (1737), and to a lesser degree in the *Species plantarum* (1753), Linnaeus set out citations of literature and synonymy, and likewise today almost every work devoted to the systematics of a group, or to faunistic descriptions, gives synonymies listing the earlier generic or specific names with their appropriate references. It has been estimated that about 750,000 different kinds of insects have been described, and about 2,500,000 names of one kind or another have been attached to these species! In the words of a past-President of the Royal Entomological Society, it is not really enough at the present moment to rely on the recollections of one's older colleagues in the search for the odd piece of information nobody can find!(6).

I shall come a little later to some general remarks on Linnaeus and bibliography, but I must surely mention now what is probably the first real scientific bibliography of botanical literature, his *Bibliotheca botanica* which first appeared at Amsterdam in 1736, with a second edition in 1751. This concise work—the second edition runs to 233 pages—is a model of its kind, possessing all the Linnaean virtues of conciseness and order, and with the unmistakable Linnaean flavour permeating the whole. In his preface Linnaeus states that his first aim is to arrange botanical books in a natural order, so that the tiro may know what he should select, and what authors have written on this or that aspect of botanical science. It would be unwise, says Linnaeus, to give an opinion on each single book. Who does not love and defend his own progeny? Who is entirely free from error? What person of any standing has not performed some useful service for his contemporaries?(7).

The writers are classified, *more Linnaeano*, into sixteen groups, of which the first contains the Fathers (*Patres*), and the sixteenth, the Anomalous authors, among whom we find such disparate classes as Poets, Theologians and Librarians. Interesting groups are those of the *Curiosi*, who collected unknown or imperfectly described plants, and provide them with descriptions and illustrations, and the *Adonistae*, who enumerate exotic plants, either sown in or transplanted to some botanic garden. Even the different kinds of garden are typified—eight in all, of which the most refined are the *Semiramis*, formerly styled

the Hanging Garden (rare today, says Linnaeus), and the *Tantalus*, or Garden of the Magnates, with trees artificially and elegantly pruned, and parterres and plesaunces (8), all "arranged in a fine hortulan manner".

I cannot leave discussion of the *Bibliotheca botanica* without giving the gist of Linnaeus's remarks on the manifold uses of a botanical library. These are—

- (a) To enable the student to follow the changes and developments in Botanical Science.
- (b) To learn what has been discovered so as to avoid unnecessary elaboration of what has already been demonstrated.
- (c) To take note of lacunae and thus to see what should be added to the sum of knowledge.
- (d) To distinguish genuine from apurious books, useful from harmful, valuable from worthless, necessary from superfluous.
- (e) To take note of all those who have written on some aspect or other of botany, so as to pick out the more useful contributions "and six hundred other uses."

I have already indicated that nomenclature in systematics is largely a bibliographical problem, and this accounts for the importance now attached to works by Linnaeus's contemporaries or to works which appeared a few years after his death. These works were of little account at first, until it became realized that the plants and animals described in them had been named according to Linnaeus's binomial method. The strict application of the Law of Priority, enforced by the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature, adopted officially by the Fifth International Congress of Zoology held at Berlin in 1901, gives precedence to names published after 1758, and thus to those published immediately after this date rather than to those which came later and which were used up to the discovery of their predecessors. An example of such a book is N. Poda's dissertation on insects, published at Graz in 1761, or the Dutch translation of Moehring's work on birds, dated 1758, the Latin original being issued six years earlier. In 1905, the International Botanical Congress of Vienna accepted Linnaeus's *Species plantarum*, 1753, as the starting-point of botanical nomenclature in general, though later starting-points have been chosen for fossil plants and various groups of

\* As a footnote to the above remarks on Linnaeus's classification of botanical writers, I am delighted to see from a recent publication of the Wild Flower Society that among the special branches of the Society are the "Adventurers", the "Lotus Eaters", and "Valhalla", the Lotus Eaters being those easy-going observers who have not won a prize after two years, whereas entry into Valhalla is only permitted to those in a Winner's category and who have twice recorded at least 600 plants there!

lower cryptogams. All this and further interest in the history of science has had considerable effect on the prices of these works.

I have spoken at some length of Linnaeus, but his importance in bibliography and in the history of science provides justification for an extended consideration of his work. As long ago as 1781, Richard Pulteney devoted 425 pages to discussing the *General view of the writings of Linnaeus*, and B. H. Soulsby's *Catalogue of the works of Linnaeus (and publications more immediately relating thereto)*, published in 1933, is an imposing quarto of more than 246 pages. Pulteney says that Linnaeus's *Bibliotheca botanica* is by no means so unentertaining as might be expected (9). Short characters of the books are frequently subjoined, e.g., "Figurae mediocres ex aliis paucae novae", "Dignum opus", etc. Of the thirteen editions of the *Systema naturae* (which must surely be one of the most frequently issued books of its kind) the first appeared in 1735, when the author was 28 years old, and the thirteenth in 1778, ten years after his death. The first edition, a large folio of fourteen pages, has no scientific value, but in 1954 it fetched a price of £1,100 at a London auction sale.\* And this was in spite of the fact that the edition seems to have originally consisted of at least 150 copies, and that two facsimiles have also been published. All this is due, doubtless, to the comparatively recent and growing interest in the history of science, and consequently in books where some major idea or doctrine has been published for the first time. And the interest in Linnaeus and his writings has also been stimulated by his importance in the field of biological nomenclature. It has been pointed out by the late Wilhelm Junk that a kind of "nepotism" exists in these matters (10). C. Darwin's *Origin*, first edition, is a valued book, but so are nowadays the works of Erasmus Darwin, the grandfather of Charles, and even a work on Muciginous Matter, published in 1780 by a Charles Darwin, uncle of the great Charles. This unimportant work was priced at £20 before the late war.

After Linnaeus's *Bibliotheca botanica*, we come to a work with the same main title, by Jean-François Séguier, published at The Hague in 1740, which included the *Bibliotheca botanica* of J. A. Burnaldi, or rather, by anagram, Ovidius Montalbani, of Bologna. This work, arranged by authors, with a valuable subject index, is still useful to bibliographers, though somewhat put into the shade by the better-known *Bibliotheca botanica* of A. von Haller. Séguier's work was

\* In November 1959, the price reached £2,900.

re-issued at The Hague in 1760, together with the *Auctuarium of L. T. Gronovius*.

Haller's work, the first of four bibliographies by the eminent Swiss correspondent of Linnaeus, was published in two quarto volumes at Zurich in 1771-1772. J. Christian Bay states that "Practically no botanical work, no book touching upon medical botany and agricultural applications of this science, is wanting in his compilation." (11).

This remarkable man had assembled a private library of some 20,000 volumes which were bought after his death by the Emperor Joseph II and presented to the University of Pavia. In the course of his bibliographical work, Haller, it is estimated, must have examined about 52,000 works, and thereby astonished his contemporaries. Before leaving Haller, mention should be made of the *Bibliotheca anatomica*, 1774-1777, the *Bibliotheca chirurgica*, 1775, and the *Bibliotheca medicinae practicae*, 1776. Of their author, Sir William Osler declared: "Haller is the greatest bibliographer in our ranks . . . to learning and judgement he added that indispensable quality in a bibliographer, accuracy." (12).

Before coming to a later period, I should like to mention the work of Jonas Dryander (1748-1810), Sir Joseph Banks's botanist-librarian, whose catalogue of Banks's natural history library in five volumes can still be consulted with great profit. Dryander was born at Gothenburg, in Sweden, in 1748, and came to England in 1777, where he appears to have been immediately introduced to Sir Joseph Banks, the great scientific Maecenas of the time. He shortly afterwards became botanical assistant to Banks, whose aide he remained until his own death in 1810. His position as Banks's librarian was an important one, and the catalogue of the Banksian library, published from 1798 to 1800, was regarded by the great Pritzel himself as "superior to all other books about botanical literature" (13), and Dryander's friend, Sir James Edward Smith, stated that the work was "a model for all future writers in this line; but a model calculated rather to check than to excite imitation. A work so ingenious in design and so perfect in execution can scarcely be produced in any science". The catalogue is exemplary in its completeness and accuracy. In the Botany division there are 833 subdivisions, which alone seems to justify Sir J. E. Smith's comment on the unique quality of the compilation. Incidentally, Dryander must have been one of the earliest editors who issued printed lists of desiderata for the library (14). But the catalogue of the library is his enduring

monument, and, to quote Pritzel once again: "After Séguier, Linnaeus and Haller, who published important works during the preceding century, the one author worthy to be eternally remembered is the compiler of the *Bibliotheca Banksiana*, Jonas Dryander." (15). That the Catalogue was early in its life the object of esteem is seen from a letter to Banks from Louis Delaunay, Librarian of the Paris Natural History Museum, who wrote in September, 1797, for two copies of the work, which were required, as he states, to bring his own catalogue to perfection (16). The importance of Banks's herbarium and library in drawing together the scientific world of the time and not merely the world of botanists, is perhaps illustrated by a sentence about Banks's hospitality in a letter from Joseph Jacquin, botanist and chemist, then a visitor to England, to his father, Nicolaus Joseph, F.R.S.: "When you now have doubt about plants, you have only to write to me, for here is the place where one can above all reach certainty."

Bay, in the paper already referred to, has remarked that there are but a few examples in the literature of the bibliography of botany, where the knowledge of the botanist and the skill of the bibliographer truly supplement each other and form a happy union (11). As one such example he instances the work of Haller, and as another G. A. Pritzel's *Thesaurus literaturae botanicae*, 1851 (2nd ed. 1872). This famous work must now occupy our attention.

Georg August Pritzel (1815-1874) estimated the number of books he had himself examined, collated and noted at 40,000. A careful selection reduced them to 15,000, and their titles, often with appropriate terse annotations, fill the 547 quarto pages of his *Thesaurus*, the first parts of which appeared in 1847, the work being concluded in 1851. A new edition of the *Thesaurus* was prepared, but only the first four fascicles (pp. 1-320, up to the article "Tournefort") were published during his lifetime. The second and concluding part of the new edition appeared three years later, completed and edited by Professor Karl Jessen. This edition was reprinted photographically at Milan in 1950. This was just as well, as the paper of most copies of the original is in a deplorable condition. Pritzel, as well as being no mean botanist, was a professional librarian, and his work was founded upon personal scrutiny—the "autopsy" of the earlier practitioners—and upon a careful comparison of copies and editions, all this information being summarized and set out with great technical skill. The two editions of the *Thesaurus* are still the main source books for botanical bibli-

graphy, and it should, perhaps, be remembered that the first edition of the work includes a number of titles afterwards omitted from the second.

In the Botanical Library of the British Museum (Natural History) is a marked copy of Pritzel's *Thesaurus* which was used by the late Frederick Justen of the firm of Dulan & Co. when he was helping to build up the Museum Library at the end of the last century. Mention of Justen and the Museum Library brings me to a bibliographer of a later age, a friend of Justen, whose work is of great importance in his chosen field—Charles Davies Sherborn, who died in 1942 at the age of 80.

Sherborn was the eldest son of Charles William Sherborn, a celebrated line-engraver. He was in business for a time before embarking on a scientific career, in which he seems to have begun with the study of geology and palaeontology. He showed an early interest in bibliographical work, as is indicated by the publication of *A Bibliography of the Foraminifera* in 1888, and of *An Index to the genera and species of Foraminifera* in 1896. But his colossal achievement was the *Index animalium*, which he began in 1890, and which was to take up most of his time for the next 43 years. The object of the *Index* was to provide zoologists with a complete list of all the generic and trivial names that had been given to animals by naturalists since the time of Linnaeus, with the exact date and place of publication of each name. The idea seems to have been in Sherborn's mind for some years, but he seems to have been encouraged further by Dr. Benjamin Daydon Jackson's plans for an index of flowering plants, later known as the *Index Kewensis*, a project endowed at the expense of Charles Darwin who had spoken to Sir Joseph Hooker of the "difficulties he had experienced in accurately designating the many plants which he had studied, and in ascertaining their native countries" (17). The first section of Sherborn's *Index*, covering the period 1758 to 1800, was published in 1902 and the second section (1801-1850), a much more formidable task, came out in parts from 1922 to 1933. The whole work, in addition to its extensive bibliography, includes more than 9,500 pages and contains about 440,000 references, all but some 5,000 of which had been recorded by the author himself, and extracted by him from the original sources. It was doubtless Sherborn's great experience in indexing nearly 28,000 works that made him insist that every well-appointed library of natural history should possess a copy of every book, and of every

edition of every book dealing in the remotest way with the subjects concerned. As he said in the *Epilogue* to his *Index*: "One never knows wherein one edition differs from or supplements the other, and unless these are on the table at the same time, it is not possible to collate them properly". In illustration of this point, Sherborn used to tell the story of the name of the Wild Turkey of the Eastern United States. This was once quoted as *Meleagris fera* Vieillot. A British ornithologist ventured to point out that *fera* was incorrect, as the word on the page of the work cited—*Nouveau dictionnaire d'histoire naturelle*, Tome 9, 1817—read *silvestris*, and the bird's name was therefore *Meleagris silvestris*. Several people questioned the sanity of the British ornithologist, for they had looked at the book in question and the name was most certainly *fera*. Sherborn was appealed to, and found that both parties were right: in one copy of the book the word was *fera*, and in the other *silvestris*. However, the British ornithologist was using the original issue of the work, and the others were using a later issue which differed from the first only in the insertion of a single line and the change of the single word *silvestris* into *fera*. This is a shock, perhaps, to those "who", says Sherborn, "lightly fancy that two works of some thirty-six volumes are necessarily alike. In this instance one word was changed in part of the issue of volume 9, and the signature was the only evidence of a cancelled leaf and replacement" (18).

Zoologists are agreed upon the great utility and trustworthiness of the *Index*, and also that the work is an astounding achievement for one man. It is unlikely that a bibliographer of Sherborn's kind will ever be seen again, for, as F. J. Griffin remarks, the conditions which produced him have entirely vanished (19). It is to be hoped, however, that some attempt will be made to continue his work, at any rate up to 1863, the year for which the first volume of the *Zoological Record* was published.

Perhaps we may now briefly contemplate the bibliographical position in Zoology and Botany as it appears at present. "Nothing is more gladdening", says Lucretius, "than to dwell in the calm high places, firmly embattled on the heights by the teaching of the wise, whence you can look down on others, and see them wandering hither and thither, going astray as they seek the way of life, in strife matching their wits . . . struggling day and night . . .". However, though this sounds very much like what I may call *elephantopurgism*—the philosophy of the ivory tower—a moment's reflection will perhaps

banish any feelings of undue complacency about the bibliographical services provided at the moment in biology.

In the earlier part of my lecture I mentioned some great bibliographers. Were such men alive and working today, each in his special field, it is doubtful whether they could record even a fraction of the material that would pass before them in ceaseless flow. It has been pointed out by D. Reddick that the literature of biology is, relatively speaking, permanent, but that the science is splitting into groups, and the literature appears in a much greater variety of places than the fairly large number of specialized groups and societies seems to indicate (20). Professor Bernal holds that the amount to be read increases "exponentially" (21), and the time anyone has for reading it remains the same—and is growing less, as the gracious living of modern times becomes more strenuous and distracting.

And so abstracts, reviews, bibliographies, would seem to be acquiring more and more importance, though it is interesting to note that, according to investigations carried out in connection with the International Conference on Scientific Information held at Washington last year, scientists prefer to learn by personal contact rather than by the written word, and only about 25 per cent of scientists, it is said, make regular use of abstract journals to keep up to date with the literature of their subjects (22).

What bibliographical services are provided today for biologists? And in bibliographical services I include library services, at any rate as far as this country is concerned. I pass over the standard reference works and retrospective bibliographies, though I should like here to underline the importance of the Royal Society's *Catalogue of scientific papers* (1866-1925), which, I would remind you, is an author index of articles in over 1,500 periodicals published between 1800 and 1900. About 742,000 articles are listed, and a subject index in three volumes, devoted to mathematics, physics and mechanics, appeared between 1908 and 1914.

There were, however, no further index-volumes: a major catastrophe, bibliographically speaking.

Let us first of all consider for a moment the bibliographical services currently available to a zoologist. He will, from time to time, make use of such compilations as *Biological abstracts*, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's *Bibliography of agriculture*, to a much less extent the *Bulletin analytique*\* of the French C.N.R.S., and if, as

in a lamentably few instances, he can struggle with the language, the Biology section of the Russian *Referativnyi Zhurnal*.

But the one absolutely essential reference book for the zoologist is the *Zoological Record*, already briefly mentioned, though this is perhaps stronger on the systematics side than on that of general biology. The first volume of this work appeared in 1865, a volume of 634 pages containing fourteen sections, even then. (Editors of journals will note sardonically that the articles on the Coelenterata and the Protozoa had to be deferred to the second volume, as the gentleman to whom these parts of the work had been entrusted had, in the words of the preface to the volume, "failed to keep his engagement".) By contrast, in the volume for 1954, published in 1957, the Insecta Section alone ran to 546 pages and contained 4,060 titles, and the annual volume puts on weight steadily.

The earliest volumes of the *Record* were much more "literary" and discursive than the later production. The recorder sometimes added sharp criticisms of his own, expanded on occasion into a lengthy excursus.

Much depends upon the success of certain important libraries in acquiring the maximum amount of relevant zoological literature, and when it is remembered that the *Record* aims at being a reference work not only for zoologists, but for workers in other disciplines as well, such as palaeontologists and comparative anatomists—to mention only two such—the standard of completeness required is, to say the least of it, daunting. The work is a good example of a co-operative effort. Though it is published by the Zoological Society of London, the venture obtains some financial support from other institutions and organizations and also from individuals. Its production is also made possible by the libraries holding the relevant literature and by the specialists who record the titles and construct the subject and systematic indexes.

In addition to the *Zoological Record*, there are a number of extremely useful bibliographical works of reference, which supplement the *Record* and which, we hope, will be continued, or of which the example will be followed. I mention only a few of these. Bashford Dean's *Bibliography of fishes*, 2 vols. 1916-1923, is one of the most complete works of its kind in existence. In the words of the preface to the first volume, it was designed "to bring together in convenient form all published references to the science of fishes and to enable an investigator to find, at a minimal cost of time, what is known of a given

\* Now the *Bulletin Signalétique*.

theme". There are about 50,000 titles in this great work, the enduring monument of a man in the class of bibliographers of the calibre of Haller, Pritzel and Sherborn.

And then there is another tremendous one-man effort, the *Bibliographia Aranorum* of Pierre Bonnet, "ce vrai travail de Bénédictin", as one of his colleagues termed it, which began to appear in 1945 and of which the latest volume appeared this year.

However, it is perhaps in Entomology that bibliography has assumed a commanding position. In addition to such general current bibliographies as the U.S. *Bibliography of agriculture*, already mentioned, there is the Commonwealth Institute of Entomology's *Review of applied entomology*, which in spite of its title is of considerable interest to all entomologists. There are also some large taxonomic works such as the "Catalogues" issued by the firm of Junk, e.g., Schenkling's *Coleopterorum catalogus*, 1916-1941, Dalla Torre's (and now Hedicke's) *Hymenopterorum catalogus*. These give the key to the literature of the species catalogued and are invaluable to the specialist. When we think of the patient, often tedious, but in the long run invaluable, work of the compilers and editors of these great indexes, which are still so vitally necessary, in biology particularly, we may recall the words of the Public Orator of Oxford University on the occasion when an honorary doctorate of science was conferred on the indomitable compiler of the *Index animalium*. The Orator, in the course of his speech, said that he was at a loss whether he should compare Sherborn to Atlas, "seeing that alone for nearly fifty years he has carried so heavy a burden on his shoulders; or to Argus, inasmuch as not even the minutest shred of evidence seems to have escaped him; or to Ariadne, in that he has provided all zoologists with a trustworthy clue amid the labyrinth of literature". Most of us, I fear, though ready on occasion to play the role of the weary Titan, have no pretension to the stature of Atlas, nor are we gifted with the multiocular equipment of Argus. We are, perhaps, as conscious as Ariadne of the labyrinth from which it is to be feared we shall never be retrieved.

In Botany, the position as regards current bibliographies, is not by any means as satisfactory. There is nothing in Botany comparable to the *Zoological Record*, though the economic botanist, in the widest sense of that term, comes off rather better than the systematic botanist, who has to seek current information in a variety

of places, and generally in the publications of many different countries.

For applied and economic botany, there are such invaluable compilations as the *Review of applied mycology*, and the abstract journals of the Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux—*Horticultural abstracts*, *Forestry abstracts*, and the others.

In systematic botany, however, there seems to be an urgent need for documentary assistance, and it seems likely that this problem will be among those to be discussed at the forthcoming Montreal meeting of the International Botanical Congress. Perhaps something akin to the *Zoological Record* will be devised, but the organization of botanical documentation on an international basis, as has already been proposed, will encounter a host of difficulties, some of which we shall touch upon in a few moments.

Much thought has been given in recent years to the organization of bibliographical services, the impetus being renewed by the work of the joint committee of Unesco and the Library of Congress which, you will remember, issued in 1950 a memorandum for a conference on this subject. The problems of abstracting services have also been discussed, and in November, 1958, an International Conference on Scientific Information was held at Washington, of which a report has now appeared in the February number of *Aslib proceedings* (23).

As long ago as 1906, the botanical bibliographer J. C. Bay expressed the view that bibliography ranked as equal to, if it could not be placed among, the exact sciences, and as a self-competent discipline, bibliography would soon be forced to assert herself and insist on a detachment from library routine (24). Bay goes on to say that it is not sufficient for a bibliographer to acquire the general knowledge that makes one a useful member of a library staff: besides a knowledge of library technique and practice, the bibliographer should choose a definite province, a special field within which every work is, so to speak, a matter of personal autopsy, if not experience, with him. This view is echoed by Mr. Burton W. Adkinson, Head of the Office of Scientific Information, National Science Foundation, in a paper presented to the Ninth Pacific Science Congress, held at Bangkok in 1957 (25). Mr. Adkinson, who was discussing the organizing and financing of bibliographic work, avowed that as far as bibliography in the physical and natural sciences was concerned, his own bias leaned in the direction of staff with combined subject and bibliographic competence, emphasizing, however,

basic training in the sciences. We can perhaps recall here that all the great bibliographers mentioned in the earlier part of this address were first and foremost scientific specialists: Scheuchzer was a physician, Dryander was a botanist, so was Pritzel, Bashford Dean an ichthyologist, and so on. To return to Mr. Adkinson, he states that it is easier, in his opinion, to train a scientist in bibliographic techniques and principles than it is to instruct a general bibliographer in matters scientific in order to obtain reliable abstracts of articles and other materials whose basic substance is in the specific subject fields of chemistry, physics, biology, engineering, etc. And here we may remember that Mr. F. C. Francis has averred that he is in no doubt that to carry out his job correctly, the librarian needs to be as much a specialist as he or she can, and that, other things being equal, the more specialized knowledge a librarian has, the better he will be able to meet the needs of his clients. It is also true, says Mr. Francis, that the techniques and practices which have been worked out by librarians are equally useful for information officers (26). Mr. Farradane, holding that information work has not only become a profession but is also rapidly developing into a science which takes into its purview such fascinating subjects as machine literature searching, language engineering, semantics, psychology and logic (why has he not mentioned cybernetics?), has drawn our attention to the fact that in America there is a growing body of subject specialists who are not necessarily trained as librarians, but who are undertaking various kinds of information work, such as indexing for *Chemical abstracts*. Such scientists may be known by titles such as "literature chemist", and the like (27). If I may once again take the *Zoological Record* as an example, the recorders themselves are all scientifically-trained specialists, though I do not think they would much care to be called "literature zoologists". Neither are they "information workers", though they may give way to these if abstracting and indexing is to be increasingly carried out by electronic methods.

I have already mentioned that botanists were concerned about the current bibliography of their subject. One of the main difficulties of any bibliographical undertaking of the kind envisaged will be its location. Bibliography presupposes books, and without the resources of a collection of materials which, as Mr. Adkinson puts it, "is alive and grows in very close harmony with the field or fields to be covered", any bibliographical project will encounter a host of difficulties upon

which it may founder. Systematic biology finds its raw material in a very large number of very disparate journals, and "selective abstracting" will not suffice. The *Zoological Record*, based on London, is fortunate in that its material is to be found in the libraries of London, where it has been acquired by the normal processes of presentation, purchase or exchange. And so we come back to the librarian and his work: without the knowledge, energy and resource of the individual librarian, no "literature-chemist" would be able to operate, no "panelist" would be able to descend on chains or facets at meetings of documentalists, uniterminators or "peek-a-boo'ers".

Nevertheless, librarians will endorse the opinion of Mr. F. C. Francis, as expressed in a presidential address to Aslib, that we have not really begun to scratch the surface of the bibliographical work required to unloose the information in our care (28). He was speaking of the British Museum Library, but his remarks should check any complacency we may feel about our own position in the matter.

I have already quoted a remark by Bay to the effect that the problems besetting scientific bibliography can be solved only in the way that individual investigators attempt, within successive generations, to apply a solution such as lies within their personal powers, on the basis of the material produced by their precursors, supplemented by the results of their own efforts.

I trust that my incursion into the patristics of biological bibliography may have indicated that the abilities and single-minded enthusiasm with which early fathers of the subject like Pritzel and Sherborn set about their gigantic tasks are still of paramount importance, although in the future we may expect some degree of mechanical assistance in these and kindred enterprises.

Some degree, I said, because as a participant in the recent Washington Information Conference has declared, the human brain is irreplaceable. This may be a pity, in some instances, but I think that what the speaker had in mind was the knowledge and critical faculty which must be employed even in buying a good textbook, let alone in making a passable index.

It was Haller, once again, who said that the principal aim of his work was not the careful comparison of editions or the determination of their dates, format and typography—"that which is commonly known as bibliography" (29). He had certainly taken these minutiae into account, but he esteemed them of small utility. His object was to show each author's particular need of praise, his special perspicacity, his originality. And

finally to give the potential reader some foretaste of what the book in question might provide. A difficult task for a mechanical computer.

As to the purpose of bibliography, as Mr. Atkinson has indicated in the paper already mentioned, bibliographic programmes may be developed on modest footings; they can be adjuncts of other activities in their inception and nurtured to their independent maturity in slow and measured stages, as long as the developing programme always keeps close sight of its original and final obligation, to serve the needs of its users.

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## Theological and Philosophical Libraries in Scotland

By THE REV. J. A. LAMB, Ph.D., D.D., Librarian, New College, Edinburgh

SCOTLAND has for long had a reputation for being theology-conscious, and perhaps only a little less philosophy-conscious. It is certainly the case that this country has been and is very well supplied with books in these two fields, and it is the purpose of this article to provide some idea of the resources of Scottish libraries in these subjects. The main interest will be in special libraries, but it should be noted that many of the public libraries make room for books in these subjects, and in certain cases an increasing proportion of shelf-space. There seem to be no libraries specifically devoted to philosophy, but there are many whose chief end is to supply students and readers in theology, and these are mostly connected with various denominations of the Church. Most if not all of them have sections devoted to philosophy. We begin with the libraries connected with the Church of Scotland.

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE CHURCH

First there is the Library of the General Assembly of the Church, which has been housed

within the Tolbooth-St. John's Church at the head of the Lawnmarket. Pursuant to resolutions of the Assembly, the two main parts of this library are now separated. One of these consists of the original MS. Records of the Church, which are now in the Register House in Edinburgh. The other consists chiefly of printed books and pamphlets, together with some MSS., and these have been removed to the New College Library. It seems advisable to describe these separately.

The Records of the Church include Registers, Minute-books, Roll-books, etc., belonging to the courts of the Church—Assembly, Synods, Presbyteries, and Kirk Sessions. The Assembly has ordered that all books containing Records prior to 1800 should be sent in for safe custody, but there are still many which are kept locally by the Clerks of the Courts concerned. In addition to Records prior to 1800, many of the records of congregations which have been dissolved, or have united with other congregations, have been collected, and in consequence there are Records

not only of the Church of Scotland, but also of some of its constituent parts, e.g., of the Free Church between 1843 and 1900, of the United Presbyterian Church prior to 1900, and of the United Free Church between 1900 and 1929. These volumes, it will be obvious, contain a vast amount of historical source-material, and the Register House will prove a very convenient home for them.

The other section of the library contains some 10,000 printed books. There is an almost complete set of Acts and Records of the General Assembly, of Acts of Parliament, Statutes, and other official publications. The librarian over many years has made a very excellent collection of histories of individual parishes and congregations of the Church in Scotland. The general history of the Church is given special attention. There is a valuable group of publications of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, especially controversial works. This library used to have also a large amount of general theology, but the bulk of that material was transferred to New College Library some years ago. The emphasis is thus on the history of the Church in Scotland.

Three other libraries exist in connection with the Church of Scotland: those of New College, Edinburgh, of Trinity College, Glasgow, and of Christ's College, Aberdeen. A brief historical notice regarding these will be useful. In 1843 the Disruption took place, when the Free Church of Scotland was formed by a split from the Church of Scotland. It was immediately necessary not only to provide churches and manses for those who adhered to the Free Church, but also training for future ministers. Hence three colleges were established, in Edinburgh, Glasgow and Aberdeen. In 1900, the Free Church and the United Presbyterian Church united to form the United Free Church, and the three colleges were then the training ground for ministers of that denomination. In 1929, the United Free Church united with the Church of Scotland under the latter name, and a few years later the Divinity Faculty of each of the three universities united with the corresponding college. Hence, at present each college houses the teaching and other activities of the united Faculty, and each college contains the main theological library of the university, though in each case there are sections on philosophical, literary and other general subjects, while each university library also contains sections on theology and philosophy.

NEW COLLEGE LIBRARY  
Consider first New College Library. [Fuller

details can be found in *New College Edinburgh. A Centenary History*, Oliver & Boyd, 1946.] The College was opened in 1846, and at once many volumes were presented by members of all social classes and of all denominations. One Anglican presented his own library, and in thirty-nine successive donations gave over 3,000 volumes. Indeed, within nine months of its inception, the library housed some 9,000 books, and ever since additions have constantly been made, partly by gift, but also by purchase, and at the present time there are over 150,000 volumes plus over 30,000 pamphlets and files of periodicals. All this created a serious problem, for the library was housed in various parts of the College and much was not readily accessible. However, in 1935 the High Church, which was within the original plan of the College buildings, was transported to a new church (Reid Memorial) in Blackford, and the church building was taken over by the College authorities and at a cost of over £23,000 was fitted for its new purpose. There is now a fine Library Hall, beneath which on three floors the collections are housed.

As to the contents of the library, only a few notes can be made. There are some medieval manuscripts of works by St. Augustine, Athanasius, Bonaventura and others, and there are large collections of MS. sermons and other writings by Covenanting and Secession ministers and others, and the extant papers of Thomas Chalmers, including his diaries, lectures, journals, and many hundreds of letters received by him. There is a large collection of autographs, letters and other documents of famous men and women. Very valuable is the collection of Persian, Arabic and Urdu MSS., a printed catalogue of which was made by Dr. R. B. Serjeant. There are also several Chinese MSS. and books. There are about 100 incunabula, most of which have a theological interest, and a catalogue of these has appeared in the publications of the Edinburgh Bibliographical Society. There are many printed books of the sixteenth century, especially in theology and history, and incidentally there is a fine group of rare scientific works of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

A few special collections may be noted. There is the Hymnological Collection of over 3,000 volumes, which is based on the collection made last century by the Edinburgh bookseller, James Thin, augmented by other smaller collections. Many useful books on the theory and practice of music, and especially of church music, have been and are being added. From the General Assembly's Library came a large number of theological

and liturgical works. To the latter group many interesting volumes have been added recently, including a Vintimille Paris Breviary of 1778, inscribed as the gift of R. F. Littledale to J. M. Neale in 1860. There is a very valuable collection of Oriental books from the libraries of Hugh Binning and Ion Keith-Falconer. The Gaelic collection contains many interesting books, and was recently greatly strengthened by the bequest of the Rev. Roderick McLeod, who had many Irish Gaelic books. The Jackson collection of books on Old Testament subjects may also be mentioned, while about half of the Library of Adam Smith, author of *The wealth of nations*, is also housed here.

In the pamphlet section, some of the most interesting and valuable are those written by Luther and other early German theologians; but the largest group covers the controversies of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, a field much examined by research students. As might be expected, the library contains a large number of Bibles, polyglots, Greek, Latin and English as well as many foreign tongues.

#### TRINITY COLLEGE, GLASGOW

The second library to be mentioned is that of Trinity College, Glasgow, whose relation to the University of Glasgow has been similar to that of New College to the University of Edinburgh. This College was opened on 18th August, 1856, and the next day an advertisement appeared in the *Scottish Guardian*, asking for contributions to the library, whether of books or of money. By 1874 the library contained some 9,000 volumes, and in that year Principal Patrick Fairbairn's personal library of 4,000 books was added. He was responsible for the acquisition of many valuable works, including many incunabula. An important section here is the Tischendorf Library of between 2,500 and 3,000 volumes made by this famous biblical scholar. This has special reference to biblical subjects, and includes a complete set of the works of Tischendorf in over 100 volumes, many versions of Greek and Latin New Testaments, and so on. Another collection is that of over 500 Celtic books, bought and presented to the College at the instance of the Rev. William Ross, who gathered the necessary £175. There is the Mearns Hymnological Collection of about 3,000 volumes, which was added in 1923. This Mearns was the assistant editor of Julian's *Dictionary of hymnology*, and the collection contains four draft volumes of the *Dictionary* with notes by Julian and Mearns for

the revised edition of 1907. The Eadie Library of over 8,000 books came from the Library of the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church in 1902, and the library of the Divinity Hall of the University was transferred here some years after the Union of 1929. A large collection of books and manuscript records and other writings from the Library of the Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church was added about the same time. Altogether this library has between 80,000 and 100,000 volumes with, in addition, some 14,000 pamphlets and tracts.

#### CHRIST'S COLLEGE, ABERDEEN

Thirdly, there is the Library of Christ's College, Aberdeen. This is the smallest of the three Colleges and has the smallest library, but it contains some very important and valuable works. Among its 40,000 volumes is the Banchory Collection, which was bequeathed along with a sum of money by Mr. Alexander Thomson of Banchory, a general collection rich in Italian literature and in works on the history and archaeology of Scotland. There is also the Library of Dr. Biesenthal of Leipzig, purchased in 1873 by a special effort, this forming probably the largest collection of Rabbinical and Jewish learning in Scotland, and containing many rare and valuable editions. The third important collection here is the Brown-Lindsay Library, mostly of theology, which came from the United Presbyterian College Library after the Union of 1900. General works on theology and other subjects are added from time to time in this useful collection.

Mention must also be made of the Church of Scotland Lending Library at 121 George Street, Edinburgh. This is designed to provide a selection of books for the study of the Bible, the doctrine, worship and history of the Church, work among young people, and the social and religious mission of the Church in the world of today. It is a modern library and is being kept up to date, and it proves most useful to ministers, teachers, and others interested in the general work of the Church.

#### UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

Next we offer some information about the libraries of the four Scottish universities. This country has been indeed most fortunate in its provision for higher learning through the centuries. St. Andrews was founded in 1411, and the Divinity College, St. Mary's, in 1537; Glasgow in 1451; King's College, Aberdeen, in 1495 and Marischal College, Aberdeen, in 1593;

and finally Edinburgh in 1583; and all have extensive collections of books.

First of all, it should be said in a general way that each university has sections for our two subjects; this is normal and essential for the sake of the students in these departments. In all cases there are Departmental Libraries as well as the General Library; these are mainly working libraries, containing the usual books both old and new required for ordinary classes. All the libraries attempt to keep up to date as far as funds permit. The inter-library loan system operates in them all.

ST. ANDREWS must come first, as the oldest of the Scottish universities. The library is in a sense older than the university, as its history is almost continuous from about 1144, the probable date of the founding of the Priory Library. A few of the MSS. of that library are still in the University Library. The earlier donations of books came from some outstanding Scotamen, but credit must also be given to Archbishop Abbot of Canterbury who in 1611 made the first large gift. In 1612, various members of the Royal Family added their quota. The Library was put on a sound footing in 1642, and since then it has grown steadily, so that today it contains over 400,000 volumes, not counting those in the Library of Queen's College, Dundee.

It is not possible to detail all the many treasures to be found here. Many of the MSS. and special collections concern departments other than those under consideration. But among the MSS. may be mentioned two with portions of St. Augustine's works written in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries; Aristotle's *Politics* in a Latin version, fourteenth century; Cicero's *Opera philosophica*, c. 1400, and some service books, such as a Psalter c. 1450, a book of Hours, c. 1420, a Gradual, c. 1350, and so on. Among the many Eastern MSS. are some beautifully illuminated copies of the Koran.

Most of the special collections known by the names of the donors contain works in the departments of theology and philosophy. Among the more recent gifts are the collection of Sacred Buddhistic writings presented by the King of Siam in 1896; the Donaldson Library bequeathed by Sir James Donaldson, former Principal, very representative in many subjects but chiefly in theology and classics; and the Baron von Hügel Library, bequeathed by him in 1926, containing important philosophical works as well as a very extensive correspondence between the Baron and other philosophers. There is a fine collection of

Bibles in many languages, containing rare texts and editions. Incunabula number about 150, some of them originally in the Priory Library; the earliest printed book is a copy of St. Augustine's *De arte praedicandi*, printed in Strassburg by Mentelin, undated, but earlier than 1466. There is also the only complete copy in Scotland of the *editio princeps* of Aristotle, printed by Aldus. It may be added that the library is very rich in fine bindings, many bearing early Scottish armorial bookstamps.

The library subscribes to about eighty periodicals devoted to philosophy and more than double that in theology. In the General Library, as distinct from the special collections, there are over 8,000 volumes in philosophy and over 24,000 in theology. Mention must be made, too, of the library of St. Mary's College, which is really a working library with some 2,400 volumes in theology in addition to periodicals.

The second University Library is that of GLASGOW. Here again there are many special collections in the General Library, the Departmental Libraries and the Hunterian Museum Library. The first gifts were given in 1475, but it was only after 1577, the date of the *Nova Erectio* by James VI, that the library really began to develop. Early gifts included that of James Boyd, Bishop of Glasgow, who in 1581 bequeathed forty-eight volumes, chiefly patristic; that of the Rev. John Howeson who in 1619 bequeathed 116 volumes, mainly of exegetical and controversial theology; that of James Law, Archbishop of Glasgow, that of Zachary Boyd, minister of the Barony, and so on. And so between gifts and purchases the Library gradually grew to its present large dimensions.

Among the special collections one of the most valuable and interesting is the Euing Collection of Bibles, which numbers about 2,000 different editions and comprises versions in about fifty languages. In English versions alone there are some 600 copies of the Bible, 200 of the New Testament, 300 of the Psalter (mostly in metre), and nearly 200 other portions. There are many Polyglots, about 250 Greek versions of which some 180 are of the New Testament, about 190 in Latin, and many other versions, including Basque, Bohemian, Icelandic, Magyar, and Romansh.

The Hamilton Collection is probably the most important philosophical library in Scotland. Sir William Hamilton, Bart., was Professor of Logic in the University of Edinburgh, and his library was acquired in 1878 at a cost of some £2,000,

provided by subscribers. In this collection are about 8,000 volumes, consisting largely of treatises on logic and other branches of philosophy, including many editions of Aristotle and the Aristotelian commentators, as well as of the French metaphysicians, and of Kant and his successors, with the exception of the Hegelian school which is conspicuous by its absence. There are also numerous works on the history of philosophy and of education, on grammar and rhetoric, and on history.

Other more recently acquired collections include a unique group of pamphlets which contains a complete set (with one exception) of the sermons preached before the Long Parliament, collected and presented by James D. Ogilvie, LL.D. The Rev. Alexander Robertson, a probationer of the Free Church of Scotland, bequeathed in 1900 a collection of 3,600 volumes and 1,800 pamphlets in general theological literature. A fine collection of 760 works on liturgy was presented by the Rev. William McMillan, D.D. Professor William Hastie, D.D., bequeathed in 1903 some 500 volumes of theological and philosophical literature, and 600 volumes on medieval philosophy were presented in 1895 from the library of John Veitch, LL.D., Professor of Logic at Glasgow University.

Among the more interesting MSS. are the following in the Hamilton Collection: Ambrosius, *Officiorum libri tres* (fifteenth century); Aristoteles, *Summulae Logicales* (1431); Jean Beridan, *Metaphysica* (fifteenth century?), Domenico da Capranica, Cardinale, *De Arte bene moriendo* (1440). In the General Library the following may be mentioned: Boethius, *De consolatione philosophiae* (fourteenth century), Boece de consolatione lequel Maistre Jehan de Meur translate de latin en francoys (translated in 1483 for the use of Philip IV), Firmianus Lactantius, *Divinarum institutionum libri VII; Tractatus de ira Dei; Tractatus de opificio hominis.*

In the third place we come to ABERDEEN. Bishop Elphinstone founded King's College in 1495, and he and his colleagues presented MSS. and printed books, some of which still survive. Marischal College was founded in 1593 and there, too, a library came into existence. These two Colleges united in 1860, and at the present time the library is housed in five different buildings. In King's College are kept the majority of the old books, as well as all books on Arts, Divinity, Botany and Forestry, the subjects taught there; this portion is the only one that concerns us here.

The library now contains over 350,000 books,

pamphlets and other catalogued items. There are a large number of MSS. and over 200 incunabula, including some that are not recorded elsewhere. The greatest treasure is the Aberdeen Bestiary, a magnificent illuminated MS. of the twelfth century, a sister of the Bodleian MS. Ashmole 1511. Scarcely less splendid is the Book of Hours bequeathed in 1714 by Bishop Gilbert Burnet. Among the early printed books are many rare items: St. Jerome's *Epistles*, dated 1470, from Peter Schoeffer's press at Mainz; Caxton's *Golden Legend*; and one of four existing copies of Bishop Elphinstone's *Aberdeen Breviary*, 1510. There are also many excellent specimens of early bindings.

One of the earliest large gifts was the bequest by Thomas Reid, Latin Secretary of James VI, of his library of books together with a sum of 6,000 marks for the support of a librarian. This included many MSS., one of them an exquisite vellum, a Hebrew Old Testament written in 1494, with ornaments in gold and colour. The most important collection for our present concern is the Taylor Collection of Psalm Versions, of which there is a printed catalogue (*Aberdeen University Studies*, No. 85, 1921, 307 pp.). This is very extensive, with complete versions, partial versions, and books relating to the Psalms, in great numbers. It is impossible to give details—the catalogue, which is bibliographically very useful, should be consulted. W. M. Taylor, who made the collection, contributed valuable material to the second edition of Julian's *Dictionary of hymnology*.

Finally, we come to the youngest of the Scottish universities, that of EDINBURGH, founded in 1583. The nucleus of the Library was the library of Clement Littil, who died in 1580 and left his books to the town of Edinburgh. These, numbering about 300, were transferred to the College in 1584. Among these is a copy of the first book printed in St. Andrews—the *Catechism* of Archbishop Hamilton—and the collection is chiefly on law and theology. Many other bequests and gifts followed, and by gift and purchase the library has increased till today it contains some 640,000 volumes, including those in Departmental and Class Libraries.

The many important collections in this library are of great interest. The Clement Littil has already been mentioned. Others in our special field include the Nairne Bequest, the library of the Rev. James Nairne of Wemyss in Fife, who died in 1678, leaving about 2,000 books, mostly theological, to the College. The Dugald Stewart

Collection has about 4,000 volumes, the general library of the Dugald Stewart who was professor of Mathematics (1775-1785) and of Moral Philosophy (1785-1810) in the University, together with additions by his son, which are chiefly devoted to oriental subjects. Other collections of great value are devoted to subjects outside our special interest, such as Celtic Studies, Fine Art, Archaeology, and Folk-music.

The library houses a large number of very fine MSS., many of which have been recorded in printed catalogues. There are several valuable Bibles, one bearing the date 1314, written on vellum, with the title, *La Saincte Bible avec une commentaire*. The illuminations here are very spirited. There is an early printed book of 1485 from Strassburg, *Biblia Sacra Germanica*, in two volumes with over a hundred woodcuts coloured by a contemporary hand. An interesting volume contains the Gospels in the Tamil language, written on dried leaves. Among other notable works is a first edition of the works of Servetus dated 1553. The Library possesses three "chained books", one being Fox's *Book of Martyrs*. There are several MS. Missals, Breviaries, and Books of Hours of great interest; and incunabula number about 300. But space forbids further examples; the printed catalogues will guide readers in their research.

#### OTHER CHURCH LIBRARIES

We turn now to the libraries of colleges of denominations other than the Church of Scotland.

Two Roman Catholic collections are specially worthy of mention. First, the library of BLAIRS COLLEGE, Aberdeen. This College was founded in 1829 to replace several smaller colleges which had existed in the Highlands, Banffshire and Aberdeenshire, for the education and training of boys as far as ordination to the Roman Catholic priesthood. In 1874 a senior college for the study of Catholic philosophy and theology was opened in Glasgow, and later transferred to St. Peter's College, Cardross, and since then Blairs College has been a junior residential college for boys up to the age of 18 who intend to go elsewhere to continue study for the priesthood. Blairs has therefore no occasion to keep up its collection of modern philosophy or theology. Its function now is purely historical and antiquarian, and indeed it is the main source in Scotland for the history of the post-Reformation Roman Catholic Church in Scotland.

The library contains many books which were formerly in the smaller colleges referred to above, but its central part consists of the main

library of the Scots College in Paris, which came to an end at the French Revolution. Part of its archives and most of the printed books were saved and brought to Scotland in the early nineteenth century. A considerable number of books of antiquarian interest were added in 1924 from a collection in Archbishop's House, Edinburgh. Further, the library contains the remains of several collections which in the eighteenth century were available to Roman Catholic mission priests, these books being usually marked "Ex libris missione cleri saecularis Scoticanae".

Among the MSS. in Blairs is the oldest thirteenth-century cartulary from the Archdiocese of Glasgow. The library has the main old collection of muniments from the Scottish Benedictine Monastery of St. James, Ratisbon, beginning with their twelfth-century Bull. There is also the unprinted collection of Marianus Brockie for a projected history of monasticism in Scotland. Among the illuminated MSS. from various sources are the so-called *Hours of Anne of Bretagne*, and another fine *Horae*, both of which have associations with the Beaton or Bethune family. There are about twenty incunabula, and several examples of early Scottish printing, including the unique *Twopenny Faith*, Archbishop Hamilton's Catechism.

The library is rich in the series of books cited by "Allison-Rogers" numbers—most of what is here listed is in the Allison-Rogers bibliography.\*

There is a large quantity of pamphlet material, mainly seventeenth century, especially concerning the Revolution of 1688 and of theo-political interest. Controversial material bulks largely here. Thus there is a good deal on the later phases of Jansenism, *circa* A.D. 1700, a subject which was of great interest in the Scots College in Paris, the source of this material. The archive room houses a considerable quantity of papers which have been surveyed by the Scottish Record Office, which issued a summary list. The greatest problem concerns a collection of some 30,000 letters, dating from 1600 and especially from 1620, down to about 1860, but

\* The "Allison-Rogers" referred to is: *A Catalogue of Catholic books in English printed abroad or secretly in England, 1558-1640*. By A. F. Allison and D. M. Rogers. 1936. This constitutes vol. 3, nos. 3/4, of the periodical *Biographical studies, 1534-1829. Materials towards a biographical dictionary of Catholic history in the British Isles from the break with Rome to Catholic Emancipation*. Joint editors: A. F. Allison and D. M. Rogers. Arundel Press, Sussex Road, Bognor Regis, Sussex. 1951. Title changed with vol. 4 to *Recusant history; a journal of research in Post-Reformation Catholic history in the British Isles*. Published under the editorial direction of the Catholic Record Society.

mostly eighteenth century. These are now in one chronological series, but they are the débris of the archives of the Scots Colleges abroad.

Finally, this library is rich in "association copies", books which belonged to figures of the Reformation or immediately post-Reformation period—bishops, higher ecclesiastics and members of religious orders, e.g., the Scottish Dominicans.

The second Roman Catholic library is that at the ABBEY OF FORT AUGUSTUS, of the Order of St. Benedict, which houses about 35,000 volumes. There are a few MSS., one worthy of special mention being a volume of patristic works from the hand of Marianus Scotus, written in 1080, with a few footnotes in Old Irish. The finest of a small number of incunabula is Jenson's edition of St. Augustine's *De Civitate Dei*, Venice, 1475. Among the special collections is the Cassidy Collection of old religious controversy. There are not many Scottish items, but there is a large number of the works published by English Catholics from the time of Henry VIII to that of George III, and especially in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, including many listed in Allison-Rogers. There is also the Gordon Collection of Celtic Books, and another of English Catholic Bibles, both of which are of great interest. In the section of Dogmatic Theology the Fathers are well represented, and the works of many less-known theologians of the seventeenth to the nineteenth centuries, some of which are seldom met with in this country, are to be found there. This is the library of a Catholic religious community, with the expected emphasis on the sacred sciences and on those subjects which are appropriate for the attention of monks.

We turn now to the Library of COATES THEOLOGICAL HALL, Edinburgh, the College of the Scottish Episcopal Church. This contains some 16,000 volumes and may be treated in three sections. The General Library is a collection built up since 1846 of working books for theological study, and there has been an effort to keep it as complete as possible for Scottish Church History and the general study of liturgy. There are many valuable papers from the eighteenth century among the MSS., some of which are listed in F. Goldie: *A short history of the Episcopal Church in Scotland*, London, 1951, pp. 161-3.

The Bishop Jolly Library was collected by Alexander Jolly (1756-1838), Bishop of Moray, and was left by him to the Scottish Episcopal Church. It consists of about 5,000 volumes,

2,000 of which have recently been deposited on loan in the National Library of Scotland. It is particularly strong in seventeenth and eighteenth century theology and patristics, and there are many printed sermons and pamphlets.

The Forbes Library was assembled by George Hay Forbes of Burntisland, a great book collector. This is mainly liturgical, but is strong, too, in Scottish Church history, patristics, and in magic and demonology. This section contains about 4,000 books, and this as well as the General Library has been catalogued according to the Dewey decimal system by the Rev. John Howe, now Bishop of St. Andrews. There are here some fine and interesting early bindings.

Associated with the above as an Episcopal Library is the BISHOP DOWDEN MEMORIAL LIBRARY, with over 4,000 volumes. John Dowden was Bishop of Edinburgh from 1886 to 1910. His library was purchased by the authorities of the Episcopal Cathedral Church of St. Mary after his death, and is kept in the Chapter House, except for 875 volumes which are deposited on loan in the National Library. This is very rich in the field of liturgical study—Dowden's work here is well known—and church history. Many of the books have additional value by reason of annotations by Bishop Dowden. There are a few MSS. and incunabula, and some of the volumes have interesting bookstamps.

Lastly reference should be made to the Library of the SCOTTISH CONGREGATIONAL COLLEGE in Hope Terrace, Edinburgh. The College was founded in 1811, and the library provides the usual range of books required in the normal theological discipline for students. There are two features of special interest: first, a growing collection of pamphlets and brochures which deal with the foundation and history of Congregational Churches in Scotland, and second, a collection of works dealing with missionary enterprise overseas, with more specific reference to the work of the London Missionary Society. The library is in process of being re-catalogued.

Associated with this library and housed in the same building is the Forrester Collection of over 2,000 volumes, presented by Dr. D. M. Forrester to the United Free Church (that section of the Church which did not enter the Union of 1929 with the Church of Scotland). This is particularly strong in pamphlet material, especially of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

[The writer would express his gratitude to the various librarians who have given him valuable and generous assistance.]

# Non-Book Materials in Public Libraries\*

By A. K. D. CAMPBELL, M.A., *Maryport District Library, Cumberland*

IN recent years public librarians have frequently been called upon to consider what should be the proper scope and limits of their collections. On the one hand, there has been the controversy over the acceptance or rejection of strictly recreational literature, and, on another, there has been the problem caused by the increasing demand for "non-book" materials of all kinds. Some of the arguments commonly used are applicable to both cases; the statement in the Roberts report, for instance, that "Casual recreation remains a perfectly legitimate public need, and it is the business of the public library to meet it" will be welcomed by the sponsors of both light literature and recorded music. However, any analysis of professional writings since the war will reveal that the question of light literature has been discussed far more systematically and exhaustively; and it is not intended to re-state the familiar arguments in this essay. With regard to non-book materials, much has been said and written about the practical problems arising. The underlying principles have been ignored to a surprising degree, and when they have forced themselves into the open, the discussion of them has tended to be fragmentary and inconclusive. The time has surely come for a more thorough attempt to estimate the claims of the curious assortment of materials which nowadays are so often grouped together with this ill-defined appellation, "non-book". Some of these materials are very much more controversial than others, and in this essay greatest consideration will be given to one of the most recent arrivals, namely, the gramophone record.

In a recent book devoted mainly to the practical aspects of non-book materials, Mr. D. Mason divides his subject into seven separate categories. These are: maps, illustrations (including art reproductions), press cuttings, films, photo-copies, micro-copies, and sound recordings. For our purposes, several amendments to this list are required. The distinctions between maps and illustrations and between photo-copies

and micro-copies are largely irrelevant; art reproductions must be separated from collected illustrations; the press-cuttings group must be made to include all kinds of periodical and pamphlet; and an extra residual class will be needed to contain all other assorted materials that have found their way into public libraries at one time or another.

It is unlikely that anyone would seriously question the propriety of including maps and illustrations in a public library. Obviously one could not build up an acceptable collection without them, since they so often appear as a physically inseparable and logically indispensable part of the genuine book. If there is any doubt as to the admissibility of written music, it can be justified on the same grounds; but musical and verbal symbols as recorded for reading are so nearly identical in kind that the point hardly seems worth raising. To exclude these materials when they are not parts of books would inevitably result in duplication and inconvenience to the public; the amount of time to be spent on special collections of illustrations, maps, or sheet-music will vary according to local circumstances, but in this matter there is no principle affecting the profession as a whole.

The provision of newspapers and magazines, especially the former, in public libraries, has recently been the subject of some vigorous discussion. No one, however, has been proposing that periodical publications should be rejected as a group; the argument is that the content of the most popular newspapers falls short of standards maintained in other departments, or that an undesirable element of the public is attracted to news-rooms. Such objections, valid though they may be, do not in any way detract from the well-known advantages of this class of materials, which, like the illustrations group, are in no need of any new defence. It may, however, be convenient to consider at this point the "non-books" class which we have said shall include all kinds of chemically-produced copies, since these newcomers in the library field have been greeted perhaps most enthusiastically by librarians who

\* Received award in L.A. Northern Branch Essay Competition, 1959.

have to maintain constantly expanding periodical collections. Names like photostat, microfilm, and xerography have now passed into the terminology of librarianship, and their advantages have been fully explained by such experts as Mr. Ardern, of the Manchester College of Technology. Clearly there are some disadvantages, and even risks, in reducing a written book to a form in which it cannot be read with the naked eye. No one, surely, would wish to do this without good reason; good reasons there are, and by providing a real solution to the perennial problems of storage space in libraries—not to mention problems of accessibility, physical preservation, and so on—the new copying processes have done enough to deserve a warm welcome from all librarians. There seems little likelihood that they will ever constitute a serious threat to the popularity of the normally-produced book; and if that threat should indeed materialize, it will be for publishers rather than librarians to take appropriate action. It should be evident that the status of film-type copies is entirely different from that of all other kinds of film, which have yet to be considered.

The categories of "non-book" materials dealt with in the preceding paragraphs, though physically dissimilar, are all so generally accepted and easily defended that their future in the public libraries is in no sort of doubt. Unfortunately, the very strength of their claim has sometimes been used, intentionally or unintentionally, to justify the admittance of quite different types of material. Sir Philip Morris, in a much praised address to the Library Association Conference a few years ago, used these words:

"There is no doubt whatever that a library exists in order to make knowledge and information available in the form in which it can be most readily absorbed and thoroughly utilized. Sheet-music and records are already 'books', and I suppose that as these exceptions have been made, the photostat, the film, and the photograph, undoubtedly increasing in importance and significance as time goes on, occasion no particular problem."

Whether or not one feels inclined to agree with Sir Philip's bold, not to say reckless, definition of the purpose of a library, it must surely be obvious that he has given little thought to the varied nature of the materials with which he is dealing. Films are sandwiched between photocopies and illustrations, and the gramophone record, which raises the greatest problems of all, is referred to as if its position were unchallengeable. No mention is made of art reproductions and museum furnishings; yet it is this group of aliens, surely, that was the first to infiltrate into the public library with dubious credentials.

Legally, indeed, there could be no objection to this infiltration after the well-known Act of 1892; some far-sighted librarians, however, have always opposed it as creating a dangerous precedent, and in practice the library-cum-museum-cum-art-gallery has generally failed to establish its position. Mr. L. R. McColvin, reviewing the situation in 1942, wrote as follows:

"Joint management of library and museum usually means that one of them—often the museum, occasionally the library—is neglected to the benefit of the other. The qualities and qualifications appropriate to the one type of work are not those most suitable to the other. . . . Whatever theoretical affinities may be argued, experience shows that the two do not go well together."

This uncompromising verdict appears to have been approved by the members of the Roberts Committee, and there is no evidence of any widespread disagreement among experienced librarians.

Yet as the monuments of art and antiquity gracefully resign their places in the library world, Sir Philip Morris and his supporters hasten to bring forward the representatives of a more recent, but equally alien, generation, with the film and the disc foremost among them. This championing is not wholly unreflective or opportunist. It has sometimes been asserted that the public libraries are entitled to look favourably on other media besides books because—so the argument goes—they have achieved the objectives which were set before them in 1850, and now serve a public in which all who have the mental capacity and will to read may do so. Any assumptions of this kind are based on a dangerous ignorance of the requirements of the public at the present time. In library circles there have recently been several convincing statements of the unique values of the book (such as that by Mr. J. Harley in his Library Association Prize-winning essay for 1958), and a noted educationalist has this to say:

"Today we are rapidly approaching another extreme. The knowledge that we have all but abolished total illiteracy does not in the least entitle us to self-congratulation. We need men and women who can use and understand their mother tongue. Nothing else will serve. . . . If it is true that nearly every adult can sign his name, is it not also true that fewer than in the past can read and write well enough for the everyday purposes of life?"

To suggest that the value of the book is less now than it was a century ago is surely indefensible, but that is not to say that all the other media are valueless. The position of the film is one which requires careful examination.

It is probably necessary to begin by dividing films into the same two groups which are so

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and micro-copies are largely irrelevant; art reproductions must be separated from collected illustrations; the press-cuttings group must be made to include all kinds of periodical and pamphlet; and an extra residual class will be needed to contain all other assorted materials that have found their way into public libraries at one time or another.

It is unlikely that anyone would seriously question the propriety of including maps and illustrations in a public library. Obviously one could not build up an acceptable collection without them, since they so often appear as a physically inseparable and logically indispensable part of the genuine book. If there is any doubt as to the admissibility of written music, it can be justified on the same grounds; but musical and verbal symbols as recorded for reading are so nearly identical in kind that the point hardly seems worth raising. To exclude these materials when they are not parts of books would inevitably result in duplication and inconvenience to the public; the amount of time to be spent on special collections of illustrations, maps, or sheet-music will vary according to local circumstances, but in this matter there is no principle affecting the profession as a whole.

The provision of newspapers and magazines, especially the former, in public libraries, has recently been the subject of some vigorous discussion. No one, however, has been proposing that periodical publications should be rejected as a group; the argument is that the content of the most popular newspapers falls short of standards maintained in other departments, or that an undesirable element of the public is attracted to news-rooms. Such objections, valid though they may be, do not in any way detract from the well-known advantages of this class of materials, which, like the illustrations group, are in no need of any new defence. It may, however, be convenient to consider at this point the "non-books" class which we have said shall include all kinds of chemically-produced copies, since these newcomers in the library field have been greeted perhaps most enthusiastically by librarians who

\* Received award in L.A. Northern Branch Essay Competition, 1959.

have to maintain constantly expanding periodical collections. Names like photostat, microfilm, and xerography have now passed into the terminology of librarianship, and their advantages have been fully explained by such experts as Mr. Ardern, of the Manchester College of Technology. Clearly there are some disadvantages, and even risks, in reducing a written book to a form in which it cannot be read with the naked eye. No one, surely, would wish to do this without good reason; good reasons there are, and by providing a real solution to the perennial problems of storage space in libraries—not to mention problems of accessibility, physical preservation, and so on—the new copying processes have done enough to deserve a warm welcome from all librarians. There seems little likelihood that they will ever constitute a serious threat to the popularity of the normally-produced book; and if that threat should indeed materialize, it will be for publishers rather than librarians to take appropriate action. It should be evident that the status of film-type copies is entirely different from that of all other kinds of film, which have yet to be considered.

The categories of "non-book" materials dealt with in the preceding paragraphs, though physically dissimilar, are all so generally accepted and easily defended that their future in the public libraries is in no sort of doubt. Unfortunately, the very strength of their claim has sometimes been used, intentionally or unintentionally, to justify the admittance of quite different types of material. Sir Philip Morris, in a much praised address to the Library Association Conference a few years ago, used these words:

"There is no doubt whatever that a library exists in order to make knowledge and information available in the form in which it can be most readily absorbed and thoroughly utilized. Sheet-music and records are already 'books', and I suppose that as these exceptions have been made, the photostat, the film, and the photograph, undoubtedly increasing in importance and significance as time goes on, occasion no particular problem."

Whether or not one feels inclined to agree with Sir Philip's bold, not to say reckless, definition of the purpose of a library, it must surely be obvious that he has given little thought to the varied nature of the materials with which he is dealing. Films are sandwiched between photocopies and illustrations, and the gramophone record, which raises the greatest problems of all, is referred to as if its position were unchallengeable. No mention is made of art reproductions and museum furnishings; yet it is this group of aliens, surely, that was the first to infiltrate into the public library with dubious credentials.

Legally, indeed, there could be no objection to this infiltration after the well-known Act of 1892; some far-sighted librarians, however, have always opposed it as creating a dangerous precedent, and in practice the library-cum-museum-cum-art-gallery has generally failed to establish its position. Mr. L. R. McColvin, reviewing the situation in 1942, wrote as follows:

"Joint management of library and museum usually means that one of them—often the museum, occasionally the library—is neglected to the benefit of the other. The qualities and qualifications appropriate to the one type of work are not those most suitable to the other. . . Whatever theoretical affinities may be argued, experience shows that the two do not go well together."

This uncompromising verdict appears to have been approved by the members of the Roberts Committee, and there is no evidence of any widespread disagreement among experienced librarians.

Yet as the monuments of art and antiquity gracefully resign their places in the library world, Sir Philip Morris and his supporters hasten to bring forward the representatives of a more recent, but equally alien, generation, with the film and the disc foremost among them. This championing is not wholly unreflective or opportunist. It has sometimes been asserted that the public libraries are entitled to look favourably on other media besides books because—so the argument goes—they have achieved the objectives which were set before them in 1850, and now serve a public in which all who have the mental capacity and will to read may do so. Any assumptions of this kind are based on a dangerous ignorance of the requirements of the public at the present time. In library circles there have recently been several convincing statements of the unique values of the book (such as that by Mr. J. Harley in his Library Association Prize-winning essay for 1958), and a noted educationalist has this to say:

"Today we are rapidly approaching another extreme. The knowledge that we have all but abolished total illiteracy does not in the least entitle us to self-congratulation. We need men and women who can use and understand their mother tongue. Nothing else will serve. . . If it is true that nearly every adult can sign his name, is it not also true that fewer than in the past can read and write well enough for the everyday purposes of life?"

To suggest that the value of the book is less now than it was a century ago is surely indefensible, but that is not to say that all the other media are valueless. The position of the film is one which requires careful examination.

It is probably necessary to begin by dividing films into the same two groups which are so

often mentioned in connection with the books—educational and recreational. Many librarians would refuse to expend public funds on the purchase of films which are undisguisedly recreational (although after reading the passage in Roberts's report quoted earlier, they may be less reluctant in future), but would not hesitate to build up a stock of those which are supposed to be of use to teachers. In his chapter on films in the book cited above, Mr. Mason writes:

"The material for recording and transmitting knowledge has taken different forms at different periods—clay tablets, parchment, vellum, paper; and the film is merely an extension of this series."

This is an ingenious and initially effective argument, but it does not stand up to examination. When the educational film is used as it ought to be (but seldom is), to illustrate a specific lesson prepared by the teacher, it is taking the place not of the book but of the blackboard; and as public librarians are not normally expected to supply blackboard and chalk, or a trained artist to make use of these, so they should not be expected to provide educational films. In very many cases, of course, the film does not form an integral part of the lesson at all, but is used by the lazy or overworked teacher to keep his class out of mischief without effort by himself. In such cases the librarian who keeps him supplied is rendering a positive disservice to the cause of education. Assuming, however, that some films have a real educational value, and are properly used by the teacher, it is still possible, having rejected Sir Philip Morris's definition, to demand the exclusion of all films as a matter of principle. In this crucial argument the position of the film closely resembles that of the gramophone record, which has been the subject of more heated discussion lately, and to which we now turn.

Gramophone records, as a source either of spoken instruction or of music, have occasionally appeared in public libraries almost since the time of their invention; but they remained comparatively insignificant until the coming of the "L.P." and the tape after the second world war. Since then their progress has been remarkable. In 1954, more than fifty library authorities were known to have set up record collections, and by the middle of 1958 the figure had risen to eighty-five. This development has not passed altogether without protest, both from within and without the library service. When plans for a major record collection in Glasgow were submitted to the City Council last year, one of the councillors expressed himself as follows:

"This is the most ridiculous proposal that I have ever heard put before the council. I cannot understand whether the scheme is for the cultural education of the people, or just fun and games at their expense. It means another intrusion of the council into private enterprise—and a highly dangerous one at that."

One may feel that these sentiments are reminiscent of what was said by the mid-nineteenth century critics of the Library Acts; but outspoken language is not always a sign of folly.

Inside the profession, some idea of the sharp difference of opinion may be gained by reading the correspondence which appeared in the RECORD some years ago, in consequence of an article on record provision by Mr. L. G. Lovell. Unfortunately, none of those who criticized the development of record collections stated their case in a systematic or comprehensive way, and the music-lovers, especially Mr. H. F. J. Currall in the issue of December, 1954, appeared to have the better of the argument. Mr. Currall strongly denied that record provision can in any sense be considered a "secondary" service as compared with book provision, and he pointed out that "it has long been recognized that one of the basic purposes of a public library is to help people to live fuller and happier lives by bringing them into contact with the best in literature and art". The relationship of music and literature has been of interest to philosophers from the days of Plato onwards, but in this controversy it should not become the major issue; nor would one quarrel with Mr. Currall's statement about "the realms of literature and art", as far as it goes. The real point, applying equally to other media, is this: granted that public libraries are concerned primarily with education, and that they must maintain an adequate supply of books, ought they also to furnish other concrete materials of teaching, artistic and scientific? Unless one is prepared to answer this question with a decisive negative, the door is open for the admittance of records, films, paintings, curios, models, and indeed anything whatever that can be considered worthy of study. Section 15 of the 1892 Act, which is commonly cited in defence of records, refers to "specimens of art and science". No doubt records are almost essential in the teaching of music; but so also are animal remains in the teaching of biology. And if these shall come within the librarian's province, surely living creatures must follow? The idea is not so far-fetched as it seems. A correspondent of a distinguished periodical reported as follows last year:

"A lending-library of pets exists in California; children who know how to look after them may borrow snakes, squirrels, turtles, and so on. . . I wondered if your

readers had any suggestions of similar schemes being evolved in the libraries of Great Britain . . ."

This sort of thing is the logical outcome of the "open doors" policy, and critics of record provision would do well to remember it, instead of debating the relative merits of words and music on a philosophical plane.

Similarly, the case against records is merely weakened by the demand for their exclusion on the ground that there are other sources of cheap music, or because records can at present only be enjoyed by a limited section of the public. Both these arguments, if they can be called such, have been speedily demolished by the music-lovers. There have been false moves on both sides, however; in defence of record collections it has actually been argued or implied that the very popularity of the collections already set up is an indication that they ought to be extended. Whoever believes this will believe anything. If mere popularity is to be the criterion, the librarian must renounce the dearest articles of his faith.

In case any impartial judge should feel that the point of view of the book-lover has been pressed too strongly in the preceding paragraphs, it will be well to lay stress on the belief that record-collections, like art galleries, do not necessarily benefit from their association with book libraries. Few librarians are qualified to exploit the highest potentialities of the record. An experienced music teacher has wisely written:

"Music requires as careful an approach as reading; if we are not to be frightened or sidetracked, perverted or corrupted, we must start with music's three-letter words and proceed slowly until our knowledge of the language is sufficient to enable us to tackle its Carlyles and its Thomas Manns."

Unquestionably this work demands an expert, vested with full authority and able to give his undivided attention to the task.

It may be thought that among the variety of major and minor points that have been raised in the course of this essay, two are especially noteworthy. Firstly, the term "non-book" is being thoughtlessly applied to two completely different types of material, only one of which has an undeniable right to be received on equal terms with books. Secondly, it is very surprising that the other group of materials, whose appearance in public libraries raises grave matters of principle, has met with only sporadic and ill-directed opposition. The question of record provision has aroused the strongest feelings, and rightly so, since the very high cost and practical complexity of managing record-collections makes

it impossible to shield them from publicity. Yet from within the profession at least there has been little sustained protest against the inletting of a stream which might become a torrent strong enough to undermine the very structure of the library service; the Roberts Committee merely seeks to approve a *fait accompli*. But perhaps there is still time to reconsider. Librarians should strive to clear their minds of fashionable slogans and demands, and then decide what is the essence of their vocation. They will not go far wrong if they hold fast to some quite recent words of their present chief spokesman, who said:

"It is our sacred, our inviolable obligation and duty to read, and read, and read; and woe to those who seek to prevent us. Our first obligation is to help others to read; our second, equally important, is to read ourselves."

In less than fifty words this is surely the best answer to the problem of "non-book" materials.

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#### NORTHERN IRELAND BRANCH

##### ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE, 1960

**Chairman:** P. J. Quigg; **Vice-Chairman:** J. W. Hunt; **Hon. Secretary:** Miss A. H. P. McKeown; **Hon. Treasurer:** Miss A. M. Sturgeon; **Branch Councillor:** I. A. Crawley. **Committee:** J. Beattie, D. E. Davison, J. P. E. Francis, M. S. Kelly, Miss A. K. Megaw.

#### CIRCLE OF STATE LIBRARIANS

##### ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE, 1960

**Chairman:** D. W. King (War Office); **Joint Secretaries:** R. G. C. Diamond (Ministry of Agriculture), Miss B. A. Kent (India Office); **Treasurer:** F. C. Hirst (Ministry of Agriculture); **Membership Officer:** N. J. Day (Tropical Products Institute); **Senior Grade Representatives:** E. A. Baker (Ministry of Aviation), G. A. Bull (Meteorological Office), R. Davidge (Royal Botanic Gardens), R. C. Wright (R.A.E.); **Junior Grade Representatives:** Miss M. J. Fowler (Lending Library Unit), R. H. Griffiths (Patent Office), Miss D. M. Jepson (War Office), N. J. Tilley (Patent Office).

# Forest Gate Branch, West Ham

*By F. SAINSBURY, B.E.M., A.L.A., Borough Librarian of West Ham, and T. E. NORTH, O.B.E.,  
F.R.I.B.A., Dist. T.P., M.T.P.I., Borough Architect*

MR. L. R. McCOLVIN, Chairman of the Library Association Council, was the guest-speaker at the official opening of a new branch library at Forest Gate, West Ham, by the Worshipful the Mayor (Alderman Mrs. V. Ayres, J.P.) on 30th July, 1959.

The library replaces a "shop library" opened on the opposite side of the Woodgrange Road, early in 1941. It forms part of an interesting experiment in multi-purpose building which consists of separate shops and a multiple store on the ground floor, the branch library (and the stock rooms, etc., of the multiple store) on the first floor and six maisonettes forming the second and third floors.

The whole was designed by Mr. Thomas E. North, the Borough Architect and Planning Officer, and erected on behalf of the County Borough of West Ham by Messrs. H. C. Horsvill Ltd.

The site has a subsoil largely of gravel, and the structure is a mixture of load-bearing brickwork and a steel frame taken down to reinforced concrete foundations. The floors and roof are of *in situ* reinforced concrete, and the external cladding is mainly of facing brickwork with rendered panels.

The main shop frontage is in the Woodgrange Road which, after a period of recession, is re-developing as the shopping centre for the almost entirely residential area of Forest Gate.

The library is an entirely self-contained unit, and access is at the side of the building (in Claremont Road). Its entrance façade has been designed as a continuation of the frontage, so that the library entrance will appear attractive to those approaching it from the north end of Woodgrange Road from whence, due to the setting back of the adjoining church, it can be easily seen. The entrance lobby contains a display window, and the library proper is reached via a reinforced concrete staircase finished in black grano with inset linoleum treads and Ferodo nosings.

An emergency exit from the lending library gives on to a flat roof (above the rear of the shops below), with access thence to the public staircase of the maisonettes.

The landing wall facing the head of the stairs

is finished in Flexwood (a teak veneer on a cloth backing), and this finish is taken into the lending library and continues round the counter to the window wall.

The lending library, with an area of 2,080 square feet, combines adult and junior libraries, and has accommodation for just under 7,000 volumes. Apart from a dwarf music-press, there are no island stacks—the principle being to give maximum room (in the space available) for public movement and to rely on a "quick turnover" and a reserve stock.

The internal furnishing was carried out by Messrs. Geo. M. Hammer & Co. Ltd., in Japanese oak with a wax polished natural finish and laminated plastic sheeting at those places where hard wear is to be expected.

The library is glazed along its two long walls to allow for the maximum possible of uniformly distributed natural light. Artificial light is by tungsten filament bulbs in a good style of opal glass shades.

The floor is covered with cork tiles finished with a non-slip polish. This has a pleasing appearance, is easy to maintain, and has a sound-deadening effect. The ceiling is also sound-insulated from the maisonettes above.

Doors and door frames and the staircase handrail and kicking bar are in Iroko.

To allow maximum public space in a restricted compass, office and staff accommodation occupy only about a fifth of the total area. With some ingenious planning this comprises a workroom-office, a bookstore for up to 2,000 volumes, a pleasant staff room, a staff kitchenette, and lavatories. These rooms (in common with the rest of the library building) are decorated in emulsion paint. The floor finish throughout the office and staff suite is in thermoplastic tiles.

In the library, wall space is saved by the use of floor heating on the low pressure, accelerated hot water system. This is supplied by a thermostatically-controlled oil-fired boiler in separate housing on the ground floor, which also serves a large radiator in the downstairs vestibule and supplies domestic hot water via an indirect cylinder (the latter has an electric immersion heater for the summer months). The system is



Forest Gate Branch, West Ham

designed to give a temperature of 62-65° F., in the lending library when external temperature is 32°.

The total area of the Branch Library (including entrance and boiler house) is 3,361 square feet, and the building cost apportioned is £14,503. Approximately £2,250 must be added for internal furnishing, etc., and a separate appropriation of £1,500 was made for new books in addition to the normal annual expenditure on "Forest Gate".

## The Country Library Service in the Federal Republic of Germany\*

Only in cities with the status of provinces, such as Hamburg, Bremen and West Berlin, is the payment of money for the public library service assured by law. In the other provinces of the Republic the foundation and upkeep of public libraries is left to the community, and looked upon as the responsibility of the local cultural organization, without any assured financial

\* Translation of an abridged version of a talk given at an Anglo-German Conference at Chaucer House on Monday, 23rd March, 1959.

support from obligatory subscription, etc. So the public library service, or what used to be called the "Volksbüchereiwesen" (People's Library Service) is, generally speaking, still a voluntary service, which, during any economically difficult period, is always the first to be cut down, if not cut out altogether. It is quite clear that the lack of financial stability and of well-organized regional co-operation must be a great disadvantage to all libraries, but especially the country ones.

These latter began in the last century with the organizing of travelling library systems, that is, the sending of small collections of books packed in boxes. The "Gesellschaft für Volksbildung" (Society for the Education of the People) in particular took up this kind of activity. It is true that there had been permanent libraries before this, especially those set up by the Catholic "Borromäus-Verein" (Borromäus Society), but work with permanent borough libraries as such only really started with the coming of the Library Advisory Centres about fifty years ago. The first of these Advisory Centres were founded in 1908 and 1909 in Dortmund and Hagen. The Advisory Centres initiated the part-time leaders of the borough libraries in their work, taught

them at regular meetings, had discussions with the authorities, helped with the founding of new borough libraries, and generally encouraged and guided the whole work of the part-time libraries. This was done by means of financial assistance, which was intended to rouse the community to greater activity on their own initiative, and later they received practical help in building up their stocks and in the choice of books, that is, by lists of suggestions and selections of books, and by showing them various systems, and methods of cataloguing. The more practical assistance the Advisory Centres try to give, the bigger the staff has to be. At the last of the annual conferences of the State Library Centres—this is now the more usual name for the state services, though in Bavaria they have been called Advisory Centres for some years now—it was reckoned that for a fully stocked library a staff of 42 was necessary. In actual fact, in all the 31 libraries of the Republic, the average staff is only four assistants; in Bavaria, whose seven districts are cared for by six Advisory Centres for Library Services, the average is only four assistants. The yearly budget for these six Centres in the state of Bavaria amounts to a little over half a million DM. (about £48,000), whereas the city of Munich spends twice as much, namely 1,065,000 DM. a year for its city libraries. It is evident that such sums are far from sufficient to build up, develop and maintain an effective library system. That the small borough libraries cannot survive if left on their own, but need replenishing by a library system which functions in a wider sphere, is now being regarded more and more in Germany as the root problem of library work in the country. So they are striving to establish a well constructed regional library service, which extends from the local library through the specialized central county library to the library service of the province, and is supplemented by mobile libraries. Mobile libraries could formerly only be fitted into city library systems; how they can be financed for a purely country service is still an unanswered question. So the present-day situation in the development of the country library service in the Federal Republic can be roughly compared with the corresponding English position in the 1920s.

RICHARD VOIGT

#### STUDENTS' HANDBOOK

Copies of the 1960 edition of the *Students' handbook* will be available in January. Owing to a recent rise in printing costs, the price will be increased to 8s. 8d. (6s. 6d. to L.A. members), post 6d.

## LULOP and the North Western List

THE present-day emphasis on library co-operation has brought forth many publications designed to show the resources of a group of libraries. Major examples of these are *BUCOP*, the *Aslib directory* and the *World list of scientific periodicals*. On a smaller scale, but often more useful since they show what is immediately available, are the local location lists of periodicals produced by branches of the L.A. Two recent examples are the new editions of the *London union list of periodicals* and *Periodicals currently received in the libraries of the North-west*. These two basically similar tools are in many ways different, and a comparison of them will serve to underline some general principles.

The type of library covered determines the whole character of the list. *LULOP* is confined to the holdings of public libraries, and includes many popular periodicals as well as more scholarly journals. The N.W. list contains more or less the same material but, since non-public libraries are included, the range is greatly extended. It may be argued that non-public libraries are already covered in *BUCOP* and the *World list*. *BUCOP*, for example, lists 136 London non-public libraries, compared with 14 in the North-west. Against this is the comparative ease with which the smaller list can be revised so that it is potentially more accurate. It is obvious that the N.W. list is more efficient as a single bibliographical tool because of this factor.

The material coverage also varies. The N.W. list excludes newspapers, closed files and temporary files of a popular nature. *LULOP* includes these and to this extent is more useful. The inclusion of ephemeral material does produce long lists of temporary files which take up a lot of space. There seems to be some justification for selection in the case of newspapers, since most public libraries have temporary files of the major British dailies; a restriction to foreign dailies and permanent files of defunct newspapers would be more economic. Selection of any kind will eventually retard the speedy answer to somebody's query and it is therefore a matter for the editorial board to decide whether the increased cost and time involved justify the increased efficiency.

Since the local list is a quick-reference tool it is essential that the desired entry should be found as quickly as possible with a minimum of refer-

ence between alternative headings. On the assumption that *most* demands are for current material the *World list* method of latest title entry, as opposed to *BUCOP's* earliest is more efficient. Both *LULOP* and the N.W. list follow this practice. In other respects it is perhaps labouring the point to say that accepted cataloguing practice should be followed without bizarre deviations.

The minimum information to be included in each entry is (1) location, (2) some indication of holdings. The location can be shown by a numerical symbol as in the N.W. list, or by a logical abbreviation of the library's name as in *LULOP*. For ease of reference *LULOP* is simpler since the name is obvious from the abbreviation, LAMB, WAND, HACK, etc. The N.W. list uses the numbers assigned by the Regional Bureau for interlending purposes, which are fairly familiar to anyone within the region and become more familiar with use. *LULOP* is in a similar position in showing the holdings of branches, PADD/B, WOOL/A, which necessitates a reference to the key. The key should contain the full postal address of participating libraries with telephone numbers. *LULOP* excludes the latter. The use of numerical notation in the N.W. list was governed by local associations and is successful, but where such a system does not already exist, a self-explanatory notation is more effective.

The extent of holdings can be shown by volume number or date, although the inquirer who has only one does sometimes have a problem if it is not the one used by the list. The obvious solution is to give both, but this occupies more space. Dates are the most usual method of approach and the least ambiguous when a periodical is published in consecutive series. *LULOP* uses both; the N.W. List dates only. Temporary files are shown by the standard abbreviations, 1y, 6m in both lists.

The problem of missing parts is difficult, since to indicate each one will produce complex entries, but the list may lose authority if they are not indicated. Yet how many missing parts justify the comprehensive description "incomplete"? The inquirer must have a reasonable chance of getting what he asks for and yet not be put off by the incomplete label. Both lists indicate missing parts with no indication of just how much is missing. A file which has less than 10 per cent missing numbers can be regarded as virtually complete, all others being indicated as incomplete. The inquirer would then know that he has less than a 10 to 1 chance of success when

tapping incomplete sources—a minor point, but worth making.

The format of the lists differs considerably and does reflect what may be two different revision policies. The London list is a sumptuous letter-press affair, printed on both sides of the paper with little space for insertions, cloth boards, very substantial and sturdy. In contrast, the N.W. list is in near print on one side of the paper, permitting the insertion of new titles and new locations for existing titles, stiff paper covers and spirally bound. The costs also differ: 65s. for *LULOP*, 12s. 6d. for the N.W. list. The latter is obviously designed to be replaced within a comparatively short time by a new edition. *LULOP* is meant to last and could be kept up-to-date by supplements. Too many supplements make a work inconvenient to use; not only do they mean extra works to consult but they can only efficiently record additions. Deletions can only be conveyed by long lists of amendments which, apart from being tedious to carry out, increase the possibility of error. It is also noteworthy that the N.W. list has been taken over by the Regional Bureau and participating libraries have been asked to notify changes. The machinery does, therefore, exist for continuous revision which will reduce the work involved in producing new editions and facilitate the production of amendment lists as purely interim measures.

Most public libraries within an area will buy one or more copies of the list. Other libraries will buy copies depending on (a) its cost and (b) its potential use to them. The N.W. list scores heavily on both counts. Because of its wide coverage few libraries within the Region can afford to be without it and because of its cheapness nearly all libraries can afford to buy it. Similarly libraries outside the area will be more likely to buy a cheap comprehensive list.

Principles which emerge from this brief survey are:

- (1) As many different types of library to be covered as possible.
- (2) Use established cataloguing rules.
- (3) Indication of holdings to be simple but revealing.
- (4) State a standard of incompleteness.
- (5) In general, library symbol to be self-explanatory.
- (6) Physical make-up to be commensurate with an organized revision policy.

T. BRIMBLELOW

## A Visual Aid to Book-charging Methods

The A.A.L. has followed up its earlier experiments in visual education for librarians with a filmstrip on charging methods which has been devised, written and photographed on their behalf by Walter F. Broome, of Lambeth Public Libraries.\* Whether the experiment has been entirely successful is debatable, for filmstrip is a limited medium, and the shots this one contains fall short in one very important respect—they fail to show the relative advantages of each method depicted. The very restrictions filmstrip places upon the photographer make this more or less inevitable. Whereas a film can include action photographs demonstrating, for instance, a charging method which is liable to cause queues, and another which obviates them; one where assistants are seated, and another where they stand; one with a counter top covered with rows of issue trays, and another without; and so on, the filmstrip scarcely lends itself to such treatment. In consequence this filmstrip is of value only inasmuch as it shows the *procedures* basic to each charging method.

The sequence of the thirty-one frames included in the strip does not make Mr. Broome's purpose clear, for their arrangement is largely historical and the opportunity of demonstrating the main advantages and disadvantages of each has been overlooked. Mr. Broome has to some extent tried to make good this omission in the notes which accompany the strip but here again no consecutive line of thought or approach is evident.

The filmstrip commences with a frame showing the simplest form of charging, that is, the ledger entry, and then proceeds to the indicator of Cotgreave and on to Newark. The latter system is then used to show how modern machine methods of charging have developed from it, including Dickman, Gaylord, Photocharging and Audio-charging. The sequence then goes back in time to Browne and then on to Token charging, with some final frames of methods used in university libraries. So far as public library students are concerned, one feels that a far more useful strip could have been produced had the pre-Browne methods been ignored, for they are surely of historical interest only, and the *relative* strengths and weaknesses of Browne, Photo-

charging, Dickman, Gaylord, Token charging and Audio-charging demonstrated. Although the notes are dated c. 1959, one regrets that the producer has not thought fit to include punched card charging as practised at Holborn.

The notes accompanying the filmstrip are, however, more open to criticism than the strip itself and can be misleading in the hands of anyone other than a very knowledgeable tutor. There are two major criticisms: firstly they abound in indefinite expressions of comparison, and secondly they contain inaccuracies. The second point will be pursued later in the paragraph by paragraph reviews; the first can be demonstrated by reference to the frequent use of such phrases as "to speed up"; "facilitates this considerably"; "reduced hardly at all"; "rapid discharging"; "speeding charging"; "rather slower" and "great speed". As comparative statements such phrases are meaningless. Surely it would have been possible to give some figurative guide to indicate the degree of speeding up, slowing down, etc.?

Referring to the notes to the individual methods described in the filmstrip, one reads that with open access the Cotgreave indicator system "fell into desuetude", but no mention is made of the fact that it was designed expressly for closed libraries and that one or two of these were still to be found complete with indicator even as late as the middle 1930s. The method of indicating overdues by employing a ticket with a different colour at each edge is not mentioned, nor the fact that if the reader's ticket was retained and filed in the "tray", it was not necessary to enter the reader's number in the book register.

With Gaylord it is stated that a reader is issued with both an identification card and a reader's ticket. This can be done, but the reason for this apparent duplication of effort is not made apparent. The description of photocharging gives the price of a microfilmer as nearly £500 whereas it should read £400; the position of the machine on the desk is said to be on the right but there is no reason why this should always be so: it depends on the location of counter and doors to the department. Again the camera, we are told, is loaded with 100 feet of film, whereas it is loaded with 200 feet which has to be cut off when 100 feet have been exposed. This statement leads to further confusion when the film is stated to be sufficient for 13,000 exposures instead of 26,000. Furthermore, although the notes read to the effect that the fly-leaf of the book bears all the particulars normally carried on a book-card, there is no need for this: the accession number

\* Charging methods: a filmstrip devised, written and photographed by Walter F. Broome, F.L.A., produced for Association of Assistant Librarians by Beechdale Educational Films, London, S.W.16. c. 1959. 17s. 6d.

will suffice. Referring to the counting of issues by photocharging, a process which is reduced to the minimum of time by the fact that the first and last transaction card used give the total issue and a mechanical counter adds the non-fiction issues, the notes give the impression that such records are more difficult to come by with photocharging than with Browne. The reverse is the case, and anyone used to the wearisome daily count of Browne charges will confirm this. Another point that is overlooked is that the assistant needs in the majority of cases only to look at the prefix letter on the transaction card of a returned book to ascertain whether a fine may be due. The period of loan *can* in fact be so arranged that the letter alone will indicate fines due in all circumstances. In checking returned books for reservations against a visible index, it should be made clear that it is uneconomical to do this very frequently. The notes do not make this point but the corresponding frame shows only a few volumes awaiting checking.

In describing audio-charging the statement is made that the borrower reads to the librarian (presumably into the microphone) the details of his name and address, etc. Admittedly this is possible in a very small library but anyone with experience of audio-charging would know that this is simply asking for trouble and is certain to slow down the whole procedure of charging and to produce endless errors. The notes even go on to say that because self-recording is practised as indicated this gives trouble with overdues as the borrower may disclaim the tape recording to be his own voice. If audio-charging is to be effective as a swift method of recording loan details, they must be recorded by the librarian and always in the same order—the transaction number, book number and borrower's number will suffice. As for tracing overdues, the better tape-recorders have incorporated a scale indicating the amount of tape which has been used. Each day's issue can be recorded by noting the first and last reading and thus obviate the messy procedure of bits of sticky paper or cotton. Nothing has been mentioned about costs nor the use of discs rather than tapes.

Following on the notes on photocharging, Browne, audio-charging and token charging, lists of advantages and disadvantages are given, but they can be quite misleading in uninformed hands. No idea is given of the relative value of each method or of the circumstances in which they are employed: for instance, that photocharging is more economical than Browne provided the issue is large enough to warrant

the initial expenditure on the microfilmer; that audio-charging, while much cheaper than photo-charging initially, and cheaper to run, is very tiresome and prone to error; that token charging is the answer to overwhelming queues as at Westminster; and that one of the major disadvantages of Browne is its liability to crossed tickets and book-cards. Possible losses with token charging are ignored and the difficulty of securing the return of overdue books and the need for annual re-registration of readers.

This is by no means the full total of points of criticism a careful examination of filmstrip and notes has revealed, but it is sufficient to demonstrate how necessary it is for a tutor employing them to temper the information given with specialist knowledge, and how misleading they could be to a student working unaided. A brief comparison of the notes to the filmstrip with those given under each charging method in Geer,\* is sufficient to demonstrate the justice of such criticism.

It is easy, of course, to criticize but, while I would give full marks to Mr. Broome and the A.A.L. for their initiative, it is hoped that when the notes are re-issued at some subsequent date, they will be adequately revised and edited by specialists in the particular fields.

E. V. CORBETT

\* Geer, Helen T. Charging systems. A.L.A., Chicago. 1955.

#### FULBRIGHT TRAVEL GRANTS, 1960-1

The United States Educational Commission in the United Kingdom announces that, under the provisions of the Fulbright programme, travel grants are available to citizens of the United Kingdom and dependent territories to go to the United States of America for academic or educational purposes, such as study, research or lecturing. All awards are competitive and are made by the Board of Foreign Scholarships in Washington upon the recommendations of the Commission.

The basic criteria for the award of a travel grant are as follows:

- (1) **GRADUATE STUDENTS.** Applicants must hold by the time of departure, at least a good second class degree or its equivalent and must show proof of admission to an institution of higher learning in the United States for a minimum period of nine months. In the case of medical internships or residences, the hospital to which the applicant hopes to go must be acceptable to his registration body

in the United Kingdom. Grants to graduate students are valid for a period of up to three years but are subject to annual renewal during this time. In certain instances where the candidate is enrolled for a special degree course and where the receipt of the degree is assured, the period of the grant may be extended to four years. Candidates must be free of National Service obligations.

- (2) PROFESSORS, LECTURERS AND SENIOR RESEARCH SCHOLARS should note that it is the objective of this programme that a maximum amount of time be spent in the United States and, therefore, the Commission gives preference to those applicants who intend to spend a full academic year there. Of this, about two-thirds should be spent at one University or recognized research institution. Applications cannot be considered from candidates who anticipate spending less than three months in the United States (exclusive of trans-Atlantic travel time). Proof of affiliation and details of its nature are necessary. Grants are not available for peripatetic visits or attendances at Conferences only. Grants may be extended up to a period of two years, subject to the continuance of satisfactory appointments and dollar support.

All applicants must possess a guarantee of adequate financial support in dollars for the proposed period of the visit to the United States. The Commission wishes to point out that competition for travel grants is increasingly severe, and in making their selection the Commission accordingly feels bound to give preference to those applicants whose award leaves them only a small margin for travel expenses. All applicants are expected to return to reside permanently in their home countries, and four years must elapse from the date of return from the States before a second application may be considered for a Fulbright travel grant.

Those in the graduate student category are expected to go to the United States for the academic year beginning in September, 1960. For those in the lecturer/research scholar category, travel grants are available for those who are visiting the States between 1st June, 1960, and 1st April, 1961. All grants cover the cost of direct round-trip travel between a candidate's home in the United Kingdom or dependent territory, and the American university or institution. No partial or one-way grants are offered. Travel funds must not be duplicated from any other source. THE COMMISSION ARRANGES BOOKINGS FOR SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS AND, WHERE

POSSIBLE, THEIR DEPENDANTS. The Commission is, however, unable to provide allowances for dependants' travel.

Since the funds of the Commission are in non-convertible sterling, it is not possible to offer grants for maintenance, tuition or incidental expenses within the United States.

Those who receive Fulbright travel grants must procure a special visa. The necessary certificate of authorization from the U.S. Embassy will be forwarded by the Commission at the time the award is confirmed by the Board of Foreign Scholarships in Washington. If another type of visa has already been applied for, the American Consul will make the required changes upon presentation of this certificate.

The Commission reserves to itself the exclusive right to determine the validity of all qualifications presented to it, and does not give reasons for its conclusions. There are two closing dates in this competition, contingent upon the proposed departure date from the United Kingdom. They are: *14th March, 1960*, for those travelling between 1st June, 1960, and 15th August, 1960. *1st June, 1960*, for those travelling between 16th August, 1960, and 1st April, 1961.

Those wishing to apply are first asked to fill up a record card. *This in itself does not constitute an application.* Full-length application forms are sent only when candidates indicate that their plans are complete—giving nature of appointment and dollar support available—which must be before the appropriate closing date. Full-length applications should be submitted via the Head of the candidate's College, University or employing body.

**PLEASE NOTE.**—No applications will be considered after the closing dates.

Applications should be made to UNITED STATES EDUCATIONAL COMMISSION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, 71 South Audley Street, London, W.I.

Members submitting application forms are requested to advise the Secretary of the L.A.

#### LIBRARY ASSOCIATION EXAMINERS

A vacancy has arisen in the panel of examiners for Registration Group B(iv), Bibliography and Documentary Reproduction.

An application for an assistant examinership is invited. This should give an account of the background and experience of the applicant (including any lecturing or tutoring experience in any subject), and give the names of two referees. Examiners are required to give an undertaking that during the period of their service they will not give tuition, either orally or by correspondence, for the examination in which they mark.

Applications should be sent to the Secretary, Chaucer House, Malet Place, London, W.C.1, by 1st February, 1960.

# The Library Association

## Annual Election, 1960

We, the Scrutineers appointed to supervise the Annual Election of Council for 1960, declare the following to be the result of the election:

AS PRESIDENT: B. S. PAGE

AS VICE-PRESIDENT (to retire in 1962): J. D. STEWART

AS HON. SECRETARY: W. B. PATON

AS HON. TREASURER: F. G. B. HUTCHINGS

AS HON. LEGAL ADVISER: Sir CHARLES NORTON

AS LONDON COUNCILLORS:

Miss L. V. Paulin	1283
R. Irwin	1244
E. V. Corbett	1197

NOT ELECTED: P. H. Sewell	802
S. P. L. Filon	748
W. A. Munford	747
S. G. Berriman	656
H. G. T. Christopher	626
A. C. Jones	601
J. A. Burnett	241

AS COUNTRY COUNCILLORS:

J. C. Harrison	1677
W. Tynemouth	1636
F. C. Tighe	1457
N. Tomlinson	1385
Miss J. A. Downton	1320

NOT ELECTED: Miss G. Jones	1258
S. H. Horrocks	1225
J. Dove	1195
H. K. G. Bearman	1072

AS BRANCH COUNCILLORS:

Birmingham and District: A. Wilson 141—not elected E. Simpson 77

Eastern: R. V. Keyworth  
 London and Home Counties: K. C. Harrison  
 Northern: W. Caldwell  
 North Midland: C. Hargreaves  
 North Western: G. A. Carter  
 Northern Ireland: I. A. Crawley  
 South Western: R. Hellier  
 Scottish Library Association: J. B. Purdie  
 Wales and Monmouthshire: L. M. Rees  
 Yorkshire: H. Bilton

Returned  
Unopposed

(Signed) A. H. CHAPLIN	J. T. GILLETT
C. EDWARDS	E. M. EXLEY
F. E. SANDRY	F. N. McDONALD
A. J. PECK	S. W. MARTIN

## L.A. Carnegie Medal Award, 1959

The Library Association Carnegie Medal for 1959 will be awarded for an outstanding book for children by a British subject domiciled in the United Kingdom (Great Britain and Northern Ireland), published in Great Britain during the year, which is worthy of the award.

Recommendations for the award are invited from members of the L.A., who are asked to submit a preliminary list of not more than three titles, from which the Committee will make a final selection. The award is open to works of non-fiction as well as fiction and the choice should be based upon the following points.

Fiction. (i) Plot; (ii) Style; (iii) Characterization; (iv) Format (including production and illustrations, if any).

Non-Fiction. (i) Accuracy; (ii) Method of presentation; (iii) Style; (iv) Format, etc.

The lists should reach the Secretary of the Library Association, Chaucer House, Malet Place, London, W.C.1, not later than *1st February, 1960*, giving author, title and publisher, and including only books within the terms of the award and published during the year 1959.

## L.A. Kate Greenaway Medal, 1959

The Library Association Kate Greenaway Medal is intended to recognize the importance of illustrations in children's books. (An article on the award appeared in the RECORD for December, 1955.) It will be awarded to the artist who, in the opinion of the Library Association, has produced the most distinguished work in the illustration of children's books during the preceding year.

The artist must be a British subject domiciled in the United Kingdom and the work published in Great Britain.

Books intended for older as well as younger children are included, and reproduction will be taken into account.

Recommendations for the award are invited from members of the L.A., who are asked to submit a preliminary list of not more than three titles.

The lists should reach the Secretary of the L.A. not later than *1st February, 1960*, giving name of the artist, and including only books within the terms of the award and published during the year 1959.

### Notes to Students

It is anticipated that the results of the Winter Examinations will be posted to candidates on the dates set out below:

First Professional Examination	16th January
Registration Examination	30th January
Final Examination	13th February

The Pass Lists will be displayed in the entrance hall at Chaucer House at the time of posting results. These Pass Lists will also be published in the March issue of the RECORD.

Advance notice is again given that next year's Examinations will be held on the following dates:

First Professional Examination	15th June and 16th Nov.
Final Part 1	21st June and 29th Nov.
Registration A(i)	22nd June and 30th Nov.
Registration A(ii) and (iii)	23rd June and 1st Dec.
Final Part 2	24th June and 2nd Dec.
Registration: B (iv) and (v)	27th June and 5th Dec.
Final Part 3	28th June and 6th Dec.
Registration C and D, and Specialist Certificate	29th June and 7th Dec.
Final Part 4	30th June and 8th Dec.
Certificate for Teacher-Librarians	
Papers I and II	16th June
Paper III	17th June

### Branches and Sections

#### YOUTH LIBRARIES SECTION

##### ANNUAL ELECTION, 1960

We, the scrutineers appointed to supervise the annual election of the Youth Libraries Section of the Library Association, for 1960, declare the following to be elected:

*Chairman:* Mr. H. R. Mainwood

*Honorary Secretary:* Mr. M. S. Crouch

*Honorary Treasurer:* Miss D. D. Chilcot

*Honorary Membership Secretary:* Miss N. A. Dale

*Ex-officio Member:* the retiring chairman, Miss E. H. Colwell

##### Committee members:

	Votes
Miss F. P. Parrott	281
Miss J. Butler	265
Mr. W. H. Milner	263
Mr. D. B. Lomas	259
Miss E. N. Bewick	231

##### Not elected:

Miss F. Page	203
Miss M. McKay	201

1,425 voting papers were sent out

4 papers received after 31st October

1 paper unsigned

2 papers with illegible signatures

330 valid papers

337 Total number of voting papers received

##### Scrutineers

K. H. MANTELL
M. A. GENTLE
A. V. COOPER
M. WRIGHT

### NORTH WESTERN BRANCH

The annual meeting of the North Western Branch will be held at Bootle on Wednesday, 24th February, 1960.

Notices of motion for consideration at the annual meeting must be sent to the Honorary Secretary of the Branch before Wednesday, 27th January, 1960.

### REFERENCE, SPECIAL AND INFORMATION SECTION

#### SOUTH EASTERN GROUP

The Annual General Meeting will be held at Chaucer House on Thursday, 4th February, 1960. Notices of motion must be received by the Honorary Secretary, Mrs. O. Stokes, F.L.A., University of London Institute of Education, Malet Street, W.C.1, by 31st December, 1959.

### YOUTH LIBRARIES SECTION

#### YORKSHIRE BRANCH

The inaugural meeting of the Yorkshire Branch of the Youth Libraries Section will be held in Yorkshire at a date and place to be announced later. A draft constitution will be submitted for approval and the officers and committee of the Branch will be elected. Nominations, signed by at least two members of the Section and countersigned by the candidate, are invited and should be forwarded to Mr. M. T. Tarry, c/o Huddersfield Public Library, Ramsden Street, Huddersfield, by 1st January, 1960.

### SUBJECT BOOKLISTS RECENTLY ISSUED BY BRITISH LIBRARIES

OCTOBER, 1959

A select list of books on astronomy. Carlisle P.L.

Select list of books on the Bible. Carlisle P.L.

Coventry's miracle plays. Coventry P.L.

Lady Godiva of Coventry. Coventry P.L.

Thomas Stevens and his silk ribbon pictures. Coventry P.L.

Boats and boating. Kent Co.

William Wilberforce 1759-1833. Kingston-upon-Hull P.L.

Astronomy: a reading list. Newcastle P.L.

Contract bridge and other card games: a booklist. Newcastle P.L.

Crime and punishment: a reading list issued by Newcastle City Libraries as a background to a conference organized by the Newcastle upon Tyne Women's Civics Committee. Newcastle P.L.

Handlist of recorder music. Music Section. Newcastle P.L.

Careers: a Paddington P.L. Booklist, 2nd ed. Paddington P.L.

Some books on art. Stepney P.L.

Party politics: a booklist prepared at the time of the General Election, 1959. Surrey Co.

A guide to short stories in the Wimbledon Public Libraries. Wimbledon P.L.

Reference books for the home. Wimbledon P.L.

### LIBRARY SCIENCE ABSTRACTS, VOL. I

Xerographic copies to the size of  $8\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$  in. would cost £9 10s. for first copy, inclusive of microfilming and paper binding, with subsequent copies priced at £7 5s. Those interested should apply to: Univ. Microfilms Ltd., 44 Great Queen Street, W.C.2.

## Correspondence

(Correspondents are requested to write as briefly as possible.)

### H.M.S.O. PUBLICATIONS

[Mr. P. McGrath, Director of Publications at H.M. Stationery Office, has given permission for correspondence between the Reference, Special and Information Section and himself to be published, in the hope that it will help librarians better to appreciate some of the difficulties experienced by the Stationery Office in further improving their sales service.]

MR. J. ROLAND SMITH, F.L.A., Hon. Secretary, Reference, Special and Information Section, wrote:

At the last meeting of my Committee, complaint was made of the unfortunate delay experienced by libraries ordering H.M.S.O. publications—the issue of which is frequently announced by the Press before publication day—for publication day itself. We realize that, provided you despatch the publications (and provided sufficient copies are supplied) to your retail shops, they may be obtained over the counter on publication day. But for libraries which have ordered them in advance—or which have standing orders for them—it is not very satisfactory to have to go to the shop to collect them. It is highly unsatisfactory for the majority of provincial libraries, where even this facility is denied them unless an absurdly expensive journey is made to the few cities where retail shops are established.

We realize that there are statutory obligations to be observed in the case of Parliamentary papers, but we fail to see why these should be interpreted in such a way as to deny the public access to important Government documents through their public libraries on the day on which they are officially published. We would welcome any help you can give through executive action, or, if that is not considered possible, through reference to higher authority, to remedy what is a long-standing source of irritation and inconvenience to librarians and their public alike.

In reply, MR. P. MCGRATH, Director of H.M.S.O. Publications, wrote:

I was sorry to learn from your letter of the 16th June that members of your Committee have complained of our service in meeting standing orders and pre-publication orders.

I sympathize with their views, and shall be glad if you will convey to them that these seeming deficiencies in the service are due in the main not to lack of consideration or efficiency, but to the

special circumstances of Government publishing. There is, in the case of Parliamentary Papers, the overriding need to observe the unquestioned right of Members to receive their copies prior to any general distribution to Government departments and the general public. Such publications must remain under our control until the time fixed for publication, which is usually at a prescribed time of the day, not infrequently in the late afternoon. Thus, even our own provincial bookshops do not normally receive stocks of Parliamentary Papers until the day after publication. The best we can hope to achieve in the case of Parliamentary Papers, therefore, is despatch on the day of publication. The only exceptions to this arrangement are White Papers of widespread interest and/or first-class importance which, when time permits, are sent to our bookshops overnight under security arrangements for release at the stipulated time on the following day. Clearly this provision could not be made for all Parliamentary Papers—neither would the effort be justified in many cases.

In the matter of non-Parliamentary Government publications, it is agreed that customers who have placed standing orders or pre-publication orders should have their copies on publication day. Unfortunately, the sheer volume of such standing orders work frequently precludes our attaining this ideal. You will appreciate the problem when I tell you that we have over 60,000 standing orders covering a range of 1,200 subjects. We publish an average of twenty of our own titles each day, plus five or more on behalf of international agencies (this is more than most commercial publishers produce in a month). We have little control over the incidence of publishing dates, and if several important titles appear on the same day, our staff and machinery are liable to be temporarily overwhelmed. To staff for peak periods would be wholly uneconomic. This is not to say that these difficulties are treated as insuperable. On the contrary, and particularly during the last few months, strenuous efforts have been made to improve the standing order service and I shall be disappointed if your members have noticed no improvement. Proposals which should result in still further improvement are about to be implemented, but as they involve the installation of additional machinery which has to be specially manufactured, it will be a few months before the results will be seen.

Meanwhile, I shall appreciate your indulgence in the knowledge that everything reasonably possible is being done to improve the service.

## TV AND LIBRARIES

DR. E. A. SAVAGE, F.L.A., 23 Braidburn Crescent, Edinburgh 10, writes:

Alderman Stott, formerly Chairman of the Plymouth Library Committee, tells us that TV "is a major threat to the individual, for, as with any form of mass influence, if it is not kept in perspective, it will create mental and physical inertia, mass hysteria and mass emotions".

Nowhere have I observed any decline in mental activity or physical fitness, or felt that men, women and children were becoming more subject to mass hysteria or mass emotion; they seem to me as phlegmatic and self-possessed as I have ever known them to be, and a good deal healthier. Public reports support me in this view.

TV is a development rather than a change. In their sitting-rooms people with sets may see more and better pictures than they once did at the cinemas downtown. With plays, discussions, demonstrations, variety and plenty else to choose from they may be more selective, more individualistic, less subject to the mass hysteria and emotion of an audience. Cinemas are being closed everywhere. Public libraries doing their proper work grow more prosperous. A well-organized library of knowledge-holding books stands firm against TV, radio, or any other attraction. This conclusion I base on the fact that in Britain, Western Europe and the U.S.A., publishers, who are not in business to lose money, put out more and more books of sound scholarship in all branches of knowledge. The selecting librarian finds it hard to name any subject on which a well-written, up-to-date, authoritative book is not procurable.

TV has come to stay. If we wail that it hurts our proper business, when plainly it does not, people will laugh at us. It is a great social service, and when its faults are remedied, it will be one of the greatest. Everywhere we may see dull, dreary, lonely places. In them a set is a blessing to its owner and to his less fortunate neighbours when they join him to view some special broadcast. With the wind and the rain battering my house, I like to think of the isolated people on Dartmoor who are getting such clear pictures from Hessary Tor.

Alderman Stott quotes some odd figures: "In Plymouth it was estimated that whereas 33½ million hours were spent each year by children in attendance at primary, secondary and grammar schools, 36½ million hours were devoted to reading". I cannot accept the second estimate until I know the formula on which it is based.

The figures look all wrong to me. If correct, they imply that TV is not keeping children from books; indeed, they suggest that Plymouth children are too lavishly supplied with reading. If the second estimate covers *all* reading in Plymouth, Alderman Stott is comparing unlike things, which, statistically, is indefensible.

## DEWEY DECIMAL CLASSIFICATION

MR. B. SELBY, A.L.A., *Assistant Cataloguer, National Film Archives*, writes:

Mr. Coates's review of the Dewey Decimal Classification, Edition 16 (RECORD, August, 1959, pp. 187-90) summed up the librarian's position in relation to D.C. very well, and it is apparent that a judicious combination of 14th, 15th and 16th editions can clear up some of the long-standing muddle in D.C. Mr. Coates was much fairer to D.C. than Mr. Phillips seems to think, judging from his letter (RECORD, September, 1959, p. 217). Mr. Coates was surely only stating fact when he said, "Errors and anachronisms have been left uncorrected for decades."

The crucial point appears to be that of whether or not D.C. should make an honest attempt to keep up with important changes in the literature of specific subjects or continue to rely on new groups of literature falling into holes haphazardly left in the notation. Mr. Phillips assumes that "the Congress classifiers will find it a fairly adequate tool, at least for the period of a year or so, for 'placing' the many thousands of volumes which pour each week into this Copyright Library" against Mr. Coates's estimate that "about 2,400 books published in recent years on but a few small sections of knowledge could not be given a 'specific number' from its schedules . . .". There seems to be a contradiction here, since earlier this year Mr. Phillips wrote, "the wholesale reclassification of stock every few years is not justified . . ." (RECORD, May, 1959, p. 135). Mr. Phillips does not want frequent reclassification, yet envisages the 16th edition remaining "a fairly adequate tool" only for a year or so.

In his earlier letter Mr. Phillips also stated that the adoption of the 16th edition by B.N.B. would "encourage all libraries in this country to bring their stocks slowly but surely into line with present and forthcoming editions of D.C. . . .", despite his own statement that "reclassification of stock every few years is not justified". Does Mr. Phillips really believe that the adoption of the 16th edition in full by B.N.B. would wave a magic wand over the libraries which have

lingered so long with the 14th and earlier editions and make them, even slowly, assume a more flexible attitude to classification? The factor of human inertia in libraries is, I suggest, greater than Mr. Phillips might allow.

Mr. Coates's review made it plain that D.C. is still in the doldrums, and that librarians wanting a scheme of classification which will accept the literature of new and changing subjects without reclassification of existing stock should pay their last respects to Melvil Dewey, the innovator of the nineteenth century, and make use of the progress made by the classification pioneers of this century.

MR. J. O. FADERO, *Ealing Technical College*, writes:

Mr. Aje, writing in the October issue of the RECORD (p. 267), put forward the suggestion that the B.N.B. should be represented on the D.C. Revision Committee; this is a welcoming idea which many "British practising librarians" may wish to support. But I am sceptical about what the ultimate result might be, because it may not be much better than what was achieved in the joint code of 1908.

In 1907 Dr. Dewey suggested that the American Library Association should join hands with the Library Association to draw up the A.A. Code. It was then unanimously supported from both sides of the Atlantic with a view of achieving a uniformity of practice in cataloguing. In 1908, when the A.A. Code came out, it was, and has since been, a disappointment to many "British practising librarians". It failed, among other things, to substitute more suitable terms for the much criticized American terminologies; it failed to provide any good distinction between ill-defined terms like "Institution" and "Society", and, above all, it duplicated (by reproducing as notes, etc.) a number of rules on which "agreements were reached to differ", thus increasing its complexity and thereby making it very difficult for students to grasp.

Assuming that the B.N.B. is given a place on the D.C. Revision Committee, it may probably bring about changes in one or two places, especially in the sub-division of class 942 and also in the 300's, but the basic structure will likely remain the same. For instance, any modification of its notational base will probably be an infringement on Dewey's copyright. The crux of the weaknesses of D.C. is its notation, as pointed out by Bliss in his *Organization of knowledge in libraries*. The schedules are inadequate and ill-arranged.

To bring the Dewey Decimal Classification up to date it will be necessary to reconstruct all the main classes, including their sub-divisions. It will also be necessary to devise a new notation which may be more accommodating than the decimal notation. A look at its classes 600 and 900 may suffice to justify the need for a complete reconstruction of the D.C. Engineering in all its important aspects is given 620, similarly the whole of Africa is put in 960.

Therefore, unless the inclusion of the B.N.B. on the D.C. Revision Committee will bring about a complete reconstruction of the scheme, I do not think that the idea will be fruitful if supported.

MR. E. J. COATES, F.I.A., *Chief Subject Cataloguer, British National Bibliography*, writes:

May I thank Mr. Verner Clapp for his courteous comment on my review of the 16th edition of the Decimal Classification? (See November RECORD, pp. 305-7.)

I must, however, point out that far from berating the 16th edition for failing to keep up with knowledge, I commended its comparative success in doing just this. My chief complaint against the 16th edition is that its schedules are too often disorderly, arbitrary and undisciplined, and to the ultimate user unhelpful. Much of this is, indeed, inherited from earlier editions, but the 16th edition has added some gratuitous examples of its own. All this Mr. Clapp appears to recognize and is pleased to call "inconvenience to some users". I did not suggest that matters could be rectified "at one stroke". On the contrary, I advocated the provision of Alternative Schedules to permit piecemeal amendment. Mr. Clapp answers that there is no money for this. I suspect the existence of thought barriers behind the financial ones.

My conclusion that the 16th edition has possibly done better than the 14th in providing for specific subjects represented by literature is in no way a "reversal" of my other statement that the 16th edition has not gone far enough in this direction. I stand by both opinions.

The number of titles under a given D.C. symbol (in U.S. libraries or any selected group of libraries) bears no necessary relation to the need for subdivision. Twenty-one titles under 621.381, all on general electronic engineering, would under D.C. procedure raise a presumption in favour of subdividing this symbol. On the other hand if there were, let us say, 17 titles at this number, 13 on general electronic engineering and 4 on transistors, expansion would not be

considered. Clearly the operative factor in deciding for or against expansion is not the total number of books classed under a symbol, but the number of books on each subject for which specific provision has so far not been made. I do not see how any realistic assessment of the need for expansion can be made without this analysis.

**MR. A. J. WELLS, F.L.A., Editor and Secretary to the Council, British National Bibliography, writes:**

I feel some comment is called for from me on the matters raised in the final paragraph of Mr. Clapp's letter in last month's issue of the RECORD. He asserts that "if D.C. is not to suffer from a series of national schisms, a basic requirement is that it should be consistently applied by those central services through which the application reaches the users". While no one would wish to quarrel with the idea of an international system of classification consistently applied by central services and individual users alike, the implication that D.C. is now, or, if the present policy of revision continues, ever will be such a system needs firmly challenging. The situation in this country at least is that most libraries have already applied their own modifications to D.C. long before B.N.B. came into existence. B.N.B. has been responsible for some uniformity in classification in British libraries owing to the gradual acceptance of its practice by many of its subscribers, but, though B.N.B. offers a D.C. number for those who wish to use it, its main task is to produce a subject catalogue through which the searcher can find his way expeditiously to the information sought.

For a classified catalogue such as B.N.B., D.C. leaves much to be desired, and we had hoped that some consideration might have been given to such matters as, for example, that a way should be found of putting common subdivisions at the head of a subject and not indiscriminately mixed with divisions of the subject; that when allocating notation to new subjects consideration should be given *first* to the order of the subjects, only then finding the notation that reflects that order; and that more practical consideration should be given to a method for allowing the combination of the several elements of a composite subject. I say we had hoped for these, though we did not necessarily expect them. After all, the D.C. Board must, as I would be the first to admit, take notice of its own country's requirements. In the event, the 16th edition increases

the number of places where common subdivisions are mixed with divisions of a subject and allocation of numbers has been geared to a policy of hierarchical notation to permit cutting back to root numbers rather than to a policy of providing the best order of subjects. Up to now we have made do with our [1] device to achieve specific entry, but it is not always entirely effective, and, just as others want and have the freedom to make up a specific heading in an alphabetical list of subjects, so we need a way of obtaining specific placing by class numbers in order that our indexing can be precise.

It is not with any intention of dictating to our subscribers that we have decided to introduce our own modifications to D.C., but only as a means of releasing B.N.B. itself from the difficulties imposed by the policy of the D.C. Board, and we do not think that our subscribers will have much difficulty in cutting off our added letter notation and arriving back at a basic D.C. number.

Mr. Clapp talks of national schisms and of masters who must compel servants to toe the D.C. line. Surely the way to get D.C. established as an international standard is not to attempt to secure general acceptance of its faults, but to reform the system to the point where it observes the essential simplicities of subject division, order and combination. To achieve this end we would welcome co-operation across the seas.

[A letter from the editor of D.C. appears opposite.]

#### XEROGRAPHIC REPRODUCTION

**MR. N. A. BRAMPTON, Micro Methods Limited, writes:**

Mr. R. J. Hoy in his letter published in the RECORD for October raises a number of very interesting points, which have a bearing on the reasons for which microfilms are made, the technical "ownership" of the negatives and the use which can be made of the negatives for making further copies.

In general there seem to be three main types of micro-productions, and they all apply irrespective of whether the microfilms are required *per se* or for the purpose of xerographic enlargement.

Firstly there are the films which are primarily intended for internal use. This material may be restricted for copyright reasons, or because the material is semi-confidential (e.g., certain family papers) or simply because only bits and pieces have been filmed and this would be likely to restrict their usefulness to others.

Secondly there are the films which have a more general, though specialized, interest. As mentioned by Mr. Hoy, they may be out-of-print items of which a library requires a xerographic enlargement, or microfilms of a particular document required by a scholar for research purposes, and so on. In such cases, as Mr. Hoy mentions, Micro Methods are always pleased to "rent" the microfilm negatives for the purpose of making further micro copies or further enlargements, of any suitable material. By this means libraries are sometimes able to recover *not only* their initial costs, but *more* than recover them. There is, therefore, in such cases, a premium on being the first to order specific material, which may prove to be of general interest!

Thirdly there are the films which are produced as risk publications. For example, the majority of the items in micro publishing catalogues come in this category; they are films which have not primarily been produced for any one customer, and their success depends on the extent of the sales.

Many publications can, of course, also be obtained on microcard or microfiche. Micro Methods have recently developed a new and basically simple technique based on 16 mm. film, whereby one negative can be used to produce positive micro-reproductions in film, fiche or opaque card form and also provide Xerox copies. The format is such that the Xerox copy is somewhat more expensive than the ideal format used when filming is undertaken specially for Xerox copying.

Reverting to Mr. Hoy's theme, there is clearly a great value in having a record of film negatives and we ourselves are endeavouring to build up a catalogue, not only of the published items but also of negatives produced for a specific individual, and subsequently made available to all.

#### PUNCHED CARDS

MR. T. E. CALLANDER, F.L.A., *Chief Librarian of Croydon*, writes:

Mr. E. V. Corbett, in his article on page 248 of the RECORD, rightly reproaches me for not having reported the costs of the Croydon charging system.

The Powers 40-column cards which we use cost 6s. 8d. per thousand, and these are used at the rate of one per loan. The library pays a charge of £1 5s. per week for the use of the Borough Treasurer's Powers machines.

#### GLOUCESTER CATALOGUE

MR. A. J. I. PARROTT, F.L.A., *City Librarian of Gloucester*, writes:

Librarians and students may be interested to know that the printed Catalogue of the Gloucestershire Collection in Gloucester City Libraries, published in 1928, will shortly be available on microfilm. Additions to the Collection covering the period 1928-1955, and comprising over 6,000 typescript entries in four folio volumes, have also been microfilmed. Anyone interested is advised to contact Messrs. Micro Methods Limited, of East Ardsley, Wakefield, Yorks.

#### A CHEAP MICROFICHE CAMERA?

MR. L. L. ARDERN, F.L.A., *Librarian, Manchester College of Science and Technology*, writes:

As some librarians will know, the only cameras for making microfiche are made in Holland and cost something in the region of £800. Believing that a microfiche is a slightly better way of achieving an inter-library loan than a strip of microfilm, we have developed in the College a simple microfiche camera and titler which, we feel, could probably be made for £25-£30 if two or three dozen librarians wanted it.

I should be grateful if librarians who might be interested would let me know, so that I can make enquiries from one or two small firms who can do this kind of work economically. I would, of course, keep the librarians concerned posted with developments.

#### MANUAL ON USE OF DEWEY DECIMAL CLASSIFICATION

MR. BENJAMIN A. CUSTER, *Editor of the Decimal Classification*, writes:

The Decimal Classification Office is preparing a manual of its own practices in the application of the 16th edition of the Dewey Decimal Classification to books catalogued by the Library of Congress. While the immediate purpose is to satisfy a need of the Office itself and to ensure greater consistency in the use of the Classification in order to provide D.C. numbers on L.C. cards, publication at some future date is contemplated, so that classifiers in other libraries may have the benefit of knowing D.C. Office practices and interpretations.

Users of the 16th edition are warmly invited to write us indicating parts of the D.C. in need of clarification and suggesting questions which they would like to see answered in this manual. Please address communications to me at the Library of Congress, Washington 25, D.C. Every suggestion and question will be carefully considered.

## REGIONAL LIBRARY SYSTEMS

MR. C. W. TAYLOR, F.L.A., Hon. Secretary, Yorkshire Regional Library Bureau, writes:

An obvious misprint is to be noted in the article on the Regional Library Systems by P. H. Sewell, on page 256 of the October issue.

The figure quoted in the second paragraph, "12 per cent increase in efficiency" should, in fact, be 2 per cent. I hope you will be able to publicize this mistake.

## ONE IN THIRTY?

MR. G. H. GREEN, Librarian of Canning House, writes:

I was very pleased to see in the October *Liaison* the reprint of Kenneth Allsop's *Spectator* article.

I believe it is very healthy that all people do not have the same interests, but if those of us that have a vested interest in book-reading want to do something positive about it, surely we should give publishers every encouragement to produce more paper-backs at economic prices?

Perhaps you will tell us eventually, what kind of comment the specialist readers, who receive *Liaison*, have made on this subject?

## Library Association Library

ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY, JUNE-SEPTEMBER, 1959

(Continued from previous issue)

ISAAC, P. C. G. How to find out: an essay on the mechanics of using libraries. Newcastle upon Tyne, King's College, Department of Civil Engineering, 1954. 7 p. 027.74281

BASEL. UNIVERSITATSBIBLIOTHEK. Bericht über die Verwaltung der Öffentlichen Bibliothek der Universität Basel im Jahre 1958. Buchdruckerei zum Basler Berichtshaus AG, 1959. 30 p. 027.7494

HARVARD UNIVERSITY, CAMBRIDGE, MASS. LIBRARY. Notes on the use of Harvard College Library. 1945. 24 p. 027.7744

BECK, R. J. Evaluation of the holdings in science and technology in the University of Idaho Library. Moscow, University of Idaho Library, 1959. iii, 25 l. 027.7796

TROISMONT, R. C. DE. Bases para una coordinación bibliotecaria en la Universidad Nacional del Nordeste. Resistencia Prov. del Chaco, Universidad Nacional del Nordeste, 1958. 25 p. 027.782

MAHAR, M. H. Certification of school librarians: a compilation of state requirements—1958. Washington, D.C., U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Office of Education, 1958. viii, 73 p. 027.82

TORONTO. PUBLIC LIBRARIES. One hundred and fifty books of the last three years recommended by the Circulation Division of the Toronto Public Libraries 1955-1957. 26th ed. 1957. 24 p. 028.3

BARRY, F. V. A century of children's books. New York, George H. Doran Co., 1922. vii, 257 p. 028.5

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION. NORTH WESTERN BRANCH, EDUCATION COMMITTEE, and YOUTH LIBRARIES SECTION, NORTH WEST BRANCH. Books for the children's library: one day school on children's library work, Accrington, 8th April, 1959, Warrington, 9th April, 1959. Accrington, 1959. 27 p. 028.5

LIBRARY JOURNAL, and others. A catalog of 2,700 of the best books for children. New York, R. R. Bowker Co., 1959. 190 p. 028.5

TAUBE, M., and WOOSTER, H., editors. Information storage and retrieval: theory, systems, and devices. New York, Columbia University Press, 1958. xi, 228 p. 029

BOAZ, M., editor. Modern trends in documentation. London, New York, [etc.], Pergamon Press Ltd., 1959. viii, 103 p. 029.5

WHEELER, M. T. Indexing: principles, rules and examples. 5th ed. Albany, University of the State of New York, New York State Library, 1957. 78 p. 029.5

## 060—GENERAL SOCIETIES

GREAT BRITAIN. STANDING COMMISSION ON MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES. Fifth report, 1954-1958. London, H.M.S.O., 1959. iv, 64 p. 060.0942

POLSKIE TOWARZYSTWO NAUKOWE NA OBCZYNNIE. VIII Rocznik Polskiego Towarzystwa Naukowego na Obczynie rok 1957-58. Londyn, 1958. 116 p. 063.8

MADRAS. GOVERNMENT. EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT. Museum reports 1889-90-1916 (incomplete). 211 p. 069.09548

## 070—NEWSPAPERS

Willing's press guide. 1959. London, 1959. xii, 650 p. 070.58

## 091—BOOK RARITIES

MOSCHONA, T. D. Diptychon 'Ellénikón Anekdoton Cheirográphōn: (a) Patriarchikéz Alexandreiaz 131 (126 R.P.D.); (b) Eukarist. Ph. Ps/11. Alexandria, Imprimerie du Commerce, 1957. 95-112 p. 091

FOXON, D. F. Thomas J. Wise and the pre-Restoration drama: a study in theft and sophistication. London, Bibliographical Society, 1959. viii, 41 p. 094.4

CARTER, J. More binding variants with contributions by Michael Sadleir. London, Constable, 1938. x, 52 p. 095

## 300—SOCIAL SCIENCES

Who's who in trade agreements. London, Gordon Rayment & Co., 1958. [4], 124 p. 338.82

INSTITUTE OF MUNICIPAL TREASURERS AND ACCOUNTANTS. Return of rates and rates levied per head of population (England and Wales) 1959-60. London, 1959. 111 p. 352.042

GREAT BRITAIN. MINISTRY OF EDUCATION. Education in 1958. London, H.M.S.O., 1959. v, 261 p. 370.942

LAND, E. H. Generation of greatness: the idea of a university in an age of science. Ninth annual Arthur Dehon Little Memorial Lecture. Cambridge, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1957. 16 p. 378

## 400—LANGUAGE

- KAISER, F. E., editor. *Translators and translations: services and sources* a project of the Georgia Chapter. New York, Special Libraries Association, 1959. iv, 60 p. 410
- PIETTE, J. A guide to foreign languages for scientific librarians and bibliographers. Aberystwyth, Welsh Plant Breeding Station, 1959. 62 p. 410

## 600—USEFUL ARTS

- STEINBERG, S. H. Five hundred years of printing. New ed. London, Faber & Faber, 1959. 286 p. 655.1
- PRIOLKAR, A. K. The printing press in India: and an historical essay on the Konkani language by J. H. da Cunha Rivara. Bombay, Marathi Samshodhana Mandala, 1958. xviii, 363 p. 655.154
- JOHNSON, A. F. Type designs: their history and development. 2nd ed. London, Grafton, 1959. viii, 184 p. 655.24
- HILL, P. M. Two Augustan booksellers. John Dunton and Edmund Curll. Lawrence, University of Kansas Libraries, 1958. [4], 30 p. 655.442
- BARROW, W. J., and SPROULL, R. C. Permanence in book papers: investigation of deterioration in modern papers suggests a practical basis for remedy. Washington, "Science", 1959. 10 p. 676
- BOPARULL Y SANS, F. DE. Animals in watermarks. Hilversum, Holland, Paper Publications Society, 1959. 66, [106] p. 676
- MASON, J. Paper making as an artistic craft with a note on nylon paper, illustrated by Rigby Graham. London, Faber and Faber, 1959. 95 p. 676
- VOORN, H. The paper mills of Denmark and Norway and their watermarks. Hilversum, Holland, Paper Publications Society, 1959. 46 [28] p. 676
- DEVAUCHELLE, R. La reliure en France de ses origines à nos jours. Tome 1: Des origines à la fin du XVII<sup>e</sup> siècle. Paris, Jean Rousseau-Girard, 1959. xvi, 201 p. 686.1

## 800—LITERATURE

- GUSTAFSON, R., editor. The Penguin book of Canadian verse. Harmondsworth, Middlesex, Penguin Books, Ltd., 1958. 255 p. 819.1
- SLEATER, F. C., editor. The New Centenary Book of South African Verse. Rev. and abridged ed. London, New York (etc.), Longmans, Green & Co., 1945. xxi, 230 p. 828.9968
- MACARTNEY, F. T. A historical outline of Australian literature. Sydney, London, [etc.], Angus and Robertson, 1957. 70 p. 828.9994
- THOMPSON, J., and others, editors. The Penguin book of Australian verse. Harmondsworth, Middlesex, Penguin Books, Ltd., 1958. 312 p. 828.9994

## 900—HISTORY

- The British almanac of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge 1869 and Companion to the almanac; or, yearbook of general information for 1869. London, Knight & Co. 1869. 96+288 p. 942

## Reviews

- KAISER (FRANCES E.), ed. *Translators and translations: services and sources*. 1959. 60 pp. (New York, Special Libraries Association, \$2.50.)

This book is a directory of translation resources. First, 154 U.S. translating services (individuals and bureaux) are listed, with details of languages and subjects covered, addresses and rates. Second, 42 translations pools are recorded, including not only the U.S.A. but also the U.K., Canada, Australia, South Africa, France, Holland, Sweden, Germany, India and Pakistan. Notes on each pool include its size and scope, languages and subjects covered, services provided, indexes available, and references to fuller descriptions of it. Third, 83 bibliographies of translations are described. There is an appendix on "other services offered by translators" (such as abstracting, editing, or photocopying), and a full index—by subject and language, and geographical.

The second and third sections of the compilation will be of obvious interest to all those who have to provide translations for research workers. The first section is of use primarily in the U.S.A., and suggests the need for a similar British compilation. The Special Libraries Association is to be congratulated on a very useful production.

B. C. VICKERY

- GODFREY (J. W.) and PARR (G.). *The technical writer*. 1959. 340 pp. (Chapman & Hall, 45s.)

In the critical bibliography appended to this book, the authors list—with annotations—74 previous works dealing with aspects of the presentation of technical information. Were they justified in writing yet another text? On the whole, I think the answer is yes, for their coverage is wider than the usual manual on technical writing. It is, moreover, addressed to a more mature reader than are many previous texts, which have been aimed at students or novices in the art of composition.

The authors are, respectively, a technical editor in the B.B.C. and a director of the firm which publishes the book. Their chapters cover the technique of technical writing, style and presentation, illustrations, printing processes, setting out the text, editorial procedure, typography, technical authorship, and the set-up of a technical publications unit. Their bias is towards electrical engineering literature—particularly in

their examples of illustrations—but much of their work is of wider interest.

Some detailed comments will better indicate the scope of the book. A section on "gathering material" (sources of information and indexing) is perhaps too short to be really useful. The chapter on style warns the reader against the more common stylistic faults of technical writing, without becoming an elementary manual on grammar: it is full of good sense. Electrical engineering illustrations are dealt with fully: photographs, exploded views, line drawings, graphs, charts, pictograms, engineering drawings, instructional drawings, circuit diagrams and so on. The description of printing processes covers not only letterpress but also photo-typesetting, lithography, dyeline, reflex copying (rather briefly), process engraving and colour printing. Typewriters, the printing of mathematics, and tables are other matters discussed. The staffing, equipment and working of a technical publications unit is the subject of an interesting chapter.

It will be evident that this book covers a lot of ground. It is clearly written and well illustrated. Of all the texts at present covering the presentation of technical information—which now forms part of the Library Association's Final Examination syllabus, Part 4(e)—it is perhaps the most useful. I can certainly recommend it.

B. C. VICKERY

**WALFORD** (A. J.), ed. (with the assistance of L. M. Payne). *Guide to reference material*. 1959. 543 pp. (Library Association, £4; £3 to members, post 1s.)

The publication of this work, long heralded and after a long period of gestation (with delivery delayed by the recent dispute in the printing industry), satisfies at last the need for a British "Winchell".

Its intention is to assist in book selection, in enquiry work in general and special libraries and in the preparation for professional examinations.

The scope covers reference material and bibliographies of most kinds. Its main entries number about 3,000; there are also numerous further references in the annotations to the main entries. Comparison with Constance M. Winchell's *Guide to reference books* is inevitable, for the intention and general nature of the two works are almost identical. Winchell contains, with its two supplements, some 7,500 entries. The smaller number of titles in the work under review (but already it must be accorded the casual, familiar status and dignity of "Walford") is due mainly to

its emphasis on current material and material published in Britain and to the exclusion of certain older materials; librarianship and general bibliographies are also given less attention than in other similar guides. Maps, anthologies and most source books are also omitted, as are periodicals, although there are several references to periodical articles of a bibliographical nature. Foreign language material and English language material dealing with foreign literature, history, topography, etc., are well represented, although Walford does not have the "Panamerican" tendency of Winchell. The editor's assertion that the *Guide*, in spite of its smaller size, devotes as much space to science and technology as Winchell is well founded—Walford has about one-quarter of its material in these classes and Winchell about one-seventh. Walford devotes about one-sixth of its space to language and literature, Winchell about one-seventh. The effective date of the contents is 1957, with some material for 1958.

The arrangement is by the 1957 abridgement of U.D.C. with a few nods in the direction of Dewey. References are adequate; occasionally an item is listed under more than one heading where this is appropriate. Winchell's system of serially numbering entries in each main class has not been followed, largely due to the desire to insert new material as late as possible. This may create minor difficulties if the promised supplements appear in *LIBRARY ASSOCIATION RECORD* or as separate publications. There is a 64-page index of authors, titles and subjects. The table of contents is a simple list of main classes and could well have been a little more detailed.

A comparison of the contents of Walford and Winchell reveals, in addition to the points already noted, two marked characteristics. First, the greater attention in Walford to material published outside the book trade (if one may freely apply a term from current national bibliography), and, second, what I can only describe as the "flavour" of the annotations. (Many are nicely dry, a few astringent.) In the first category are included many bibliographies from governmental and international organizations, publications of libraries, academic and professional bodies, and industrial and commercial organizations—an extension beyond the field of "formal" bibliography which is most welcome. The annotations are usually briefer and more critical than Winchell's, but not usually thereby less informative; a good example of this critical approach being the discussion of "continuous revision" in the entry dealing with the

*Encyclopaedia Britannica*. Sometimes Walford tells us more, e.g., Winchell's description of *Chemical abstracts* is largely taken up with the *List of periodicals abstracted . . .* while only Walford gives an adequate analysis of the parent work. Walford's annotations appear to place less reliance upon extracts from reviews and prefaces; often examples are given of the kind of information a work includes. The relationship between works is better done in Walford; there are frequent notes such as "Replaced by . . .", "Supplemented by . . .", "Continues . . .".

The list of contributors, of whom there are over seventy from all kinds of library, is some indication of the authority of the work. We are here given the benefit of the bibliographical experience of librarians and others who have access to some of the major book collections, both general and special, in the United Kingdom.

The format is excellent—crisp paper of good colour, Times New Roman with effective use of bold, adequate margins, good boards with probably the most elegant covering ever given to a Library Association publication. After this, we should not readily excuse the Publications Committee if they suffer in future a relapse into the drab green and blue horrors of the past.

There are very few adverse criticisms of the work. Misprints are few, two only being encountered in the preparation of this review. The index could have been improved typographically, e.g., by the use of bold for page references; it also lacks a few entries, e.g., a number of Unesco publications are given title entries only but not listed under that body; this does not seriously detract from the index's usefulness. There are some apparent inconsistencies in the treatment of entries, e.g., the series of *French bibliographical digests* are under appropriate subject headings, while for *Referativnyj zhurnal* there is only one entry at 5/6:016 and no other reference. As with anthologies of verse, one could play the game of "inclusions and exclusions"; here perhaps I may be permitted to note the exclusion of all reference to the Library Association's *Special subject lists*.

It has been said that most bibliographies rest upon the shoulders of other bibliographies, and Walford is the latest of a line including Mudge/Winchell, our own Minto (not yet entirely superseded) and Malclès. It assumes at once its rightful place among its predecessors and peers. It will be widely used by librarians in their work and professional studies. While declaring an interest in the latter activity, may I beg librarians to consider buying sufficient copies for staff libraries?

EDWARD DUDLEY

THE 600<sup>th</sup>

Public Library in the British Isles  
has just joined Keesing's

### Obituaries

**ALDER-BARRETT.**—Winifred Alder-Barrett died on the 22nd October, 1959, at the early age of 40. The loss to her family, her friends and her colleagues is a grievous one, and all feel the hardship of parting from a person of her goodness, intelligence, ability and kindness.

Winifred Alder-Barrett joined the staff of the Nottinghamshire County Library at a time when the service was expanding very rapidly. It was her first post, apart from temporary work in the Hereford Public Library before going to Oxford and in the Library of Southampton University College on leaving the School of Librarianship at University College, London. She became deputy in Nottinghamshire, and then successively County Librarian of Cambridgeshire and of Cumberland. She had a fine record at school and university, and throughout her career the libraries for which she worked had the benefit of her trained mind, high intelligence, strong sense of purpose, and sympathetic and helpful approach in all human relationships. She was a very shy person, and at first a very nervous one, but she learnt to overcome her fears. She had high ideals for the library service, and pursued her aims with courage and conviction. She won the respect of all who knew her, whether they were her own staff, professional colleagues, the staff of other departments, teachers, members of committee or members of the reading public. She was always modest and self-effacing, and she did not at all realize how much she was loved, admired and respected throughout the library service. In her last days, she may have had an inkling of this, for a great many people tried to make her aware of the position she had won for herself.

She left her mark on all the libraries in which she worked, and she had far more success than she was willing to acknowledge. No observer from without could fail to notice the steady improvements that were achieved by her work. She was tenacious, and she was not satisfied with anything less than the best which her strong sense of reality would accept as possible. She took immense trouble in the choice and training of staff, and there are many librarians today who

acknowledge the benefit of her influence when they were young assistants.

She bore the ordeal of severe and distressing illness with fortitude and cheerful resignation, and throughout she showed great consideration for others. She had comfort from her religion. She was cherished by her friends and she lacked nothing that their love and kindness could provide. Her room in hospital was always a bower of flowers. Her calmness and courage were an inspiration to all, and she will live in our memory.

F. R. E. DAVIES

The County Library Service in Cumberland has suffered a grievous loss by the death of Winifred Alder-Barrett at the early age of 49 years. She had been County Librarian since 1946, a period which saw much expansion and development in the service. The existing Public Library service in Millom became the responsibility of the County Council in 1948, new mobile library services were introduced in North Cumberland in 1950 and Mid Cumberland in 1952, two new buildings were erected in 1957—a remarkable achievement in a thinly-populated largely rural county—one a branch library in Maryport and the other a regional library for West Cumberland in Whitehaven, and improvements were carried out in a number of small towns in the 2,000 to 3,000 population group.

Miss Alder-Barrett's whole life was marked by single-minded devotion to the wellbeing and interests of the library, and for it she fought with every fibre of her being. Her way of working was quiet and unassuming; its success is there for all to see. Her knowledge of children's books was deep and loving, and she was particularly proud of the School Library Service which had been built up over the course of the years by her and her predecessors. Her approach to librarianship was essentially a personal one; her colleagues, her staff and her readers were her friends. Her quickness of mind, her cheerful friendliness, her absolute conviction of the great value of library service, and her outstanding courage in adversity will long be remembered.

E. S. RAVEN

Winifred Alder-Barrett's reputation went before her, and among the middle ranks of county library staffs one heard her spoken of as "awfully nice". A first impression of an undistinguished appearance was at once forgotten when, on being introduced, one found oneself regarded by a pair of fine and remarkably sympathetic eyes. Further acquaintance revealed a personality sensitive, humorous and kind, and gradually one became aware of great strength of character, a nervous temperament conquered, a fundamental core of goodness.

To discuss with her a problem of administration or conduct was to be sure of hearing a point of view that

met the need on practical or ethical grounds, expressed decisively, and at times trenchantly, and yet also with the modesty that was innate in her. She spoke with authority in her chosen field and she was tenacious in pursuing the course of action that appeared right. She was, as Mr. Morgenthau said of Lord Keynes, a gentle soul. The most approachable of chief librarians, the easiest of conference colleagues, she did not give her friendship lightly, but once committed, she was a true and loyal friend as long as life lasted.

E. E. D. S.

**SINGER-BLAU.**—We regret to announce the death of Mr. E. Singer-Blau, F.R.S.A., F.L.A., Librarian, Sir John Cass College, on 28th October, in a railway accident.

I first met Eric Singer-Blau as a fellow-student at the North-Western Polytechnic in 1957. We were studying Finals English Literature, and it was without doubt partly due to Eric that those lecture hours were so enjoyable and memorable. He was always so very much alive and full of enthusiasm.

He became a Fellow less than a year ago. This year he had started part-time teaching in classification and cataloguing at Gillingham. These were subjects in which he had shown keen interest, and a while back he had worked out a small faceted extension of U.D.C. for his library at the Sir John Cass College. Although he took exams. in his stride he had, inevitably, spent several years in part-time study, and his full contribution to the profession was thus delayed. Now the tragedy is that we can say only that he was a librarian of great ability and undoubtedly promise.

Those who knew him will remember him as a friendly and considerate person, singularly without malice of any kind. It is very hard to accept so violent an end for so gentle a man.

At the North-Western Polytechnic School of Librarianship, Mrs. Harrison, Mr. Mills, Mr. Sewell and I were most distressed at the news, and his family will, I know, have the deepest sympathy of many librarians at this sad time.

C. D. NEEDHAM

Mr. Singer-Blau commenced his career in librarianship in August, 1949, as a Junior Assistant at Greenwich Public Libraries and progressed to Senior Assistant at the Charlton Branch. From there he was appointed to Sir John Cass College, where he was a very successful librarian. He completed his final examination this summer. Singer-Blau brought a lively intelligence to the library world and was a most useful member of the London Aided Colleges Group of the University and Research Section. His death is a great loss to us. He leaves a widow and a very young son.

R. F. EATWELL

## Appointments and Retirements

**ALLEN.**—Mrs. E. M. Allen, A.L.A., Branch Librarian, County Seely Library, Isle of Wight, to be Chief Cataloguer.

**ARCHER.**—Miss S. R. Archer, Assistant, Ayr P.L., to be Assistant, Lincoln P.L.

**BISPING.**—Mrs. A. G. C. Bisping, A.L.A. (*née* Denton), Senior Assistant, Croydon P.L., has resigned.

**BOWERS.**—Miss C. S. Bowers, Assistant, St. Marylebone P.L., to be Senior Assistant.

**BRADBURY.**—Mrs. F. B. Bradbury (*née* Salt), A.L.A., Senior Assistant, Nottingham P.L., has resigned.

**BRANDRETH.**—Mrs. H. M. Brandreth, B.A., F.L.A., Librarian, Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine, has retired.

**CLAGUE.**—Mr. P. Clague, B.A., Senior Assistant, Birmingham University Library, to be Head of the Information Section, Rugby/Whetstone Library, English Electric Co.

**CHADWICK.**—Mrs. S. Chadwick (*née* Taylor), Assistant, Ramsbottom Branch, Lancs. Co.L., to resign.

**COLE.**—Mr. F. D. Cole, F.L.A., Deputy Librarian, Paddington P.L., to be Deputy Librarian, Hampstead P.L.

**DAVINSON.**—Mr. D. E. Davinson, F.L.A., Borough Librarian, Dukinfield P.L., to be Librarian of the Business, Science and Technology Dept., Belfast P.L.

**DAVEY.**—Mr. J. S. Davey, F.L.A., Branch Librarian, Weir Hall Branch, Edmonton P.L., to be Director, S.E. Regional Library System.

**DAWSON.**—Miss J. Dawson, Assistant, Llandudno P.L., to be Senior Assistant, Manchester P.L.

**EMMOTT.**—Miss M. Emmott, A.L.A., Library Assistant, Worsley Area, to be Deputy Librarian-in-charge, Thornton Cleveleys Region, Lancs. Co.L.

**FEAR.**—Miss P. Fear, A.L.A., Librarian, Middlesex Hospital Medical School, to be Librarian, Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine.

**GARDNER.**—Mrs. J. B. Gardner (*née* Hardy), A.L.A., Assistant Librarian, Lancs. Co.L. Hq., to be Deputy Librarian-in-charge, Morecambe Region.

**GROVES.**—Miss G. M. Groves, Assistant, British Oxygen Research and Dev. Ltd., to be Assistant, International African Institute, London.

**HALL.**—Miss D. Hall, Assistant, Ramsgate P.L., to be Assistant, Bootle P.L.

**HALL.**—Mr. P. E. Hall, Assistant, Chelmsford P.L., to be Assistant, Hornsey P.L.

**HARRINGTON.**—Mrs. B. E. Harrington, A.L.A., Children's Librarian, County Seely Library, Isle of Wight, has resigned.

**HOLDEN.**—Miss M. Holden, Assistant, Accrington P.L., to be Junior Assistant, Paddington P.L.

**HOULGATE.**—Miss J. Houlgate, A.L.A., L.R.A.M., Senior Assistant, B.B.C. Reference Library, to be Assistant Librarian.

**HUGHES.**—Mr. D. M. Hughes, B.A., A.L.A., Assistant Librarian, Technical Library, W. D. & H. O. Wills, Bristol, to be Librarian, Research and Development Establishment, British-American Tobacco Company Ltd., Southampton.

**JAMES.**—Mr. R. T. James, F.L.A., Branch Librarian, Earlsdon Branch, Coventry P.L., to be Branch Librarian, Liverpool P.L.

**KEMP.**—Mr. I. Kemp, A.L.A., Chief Assistant, Bridgwater P.L., to be Librarian-in-charge, Central Lending Library, Gloucester P.L.

**LAMB.**—Mrs. J. Lamb (*née* Bruce), A.L.A., Senior Assistant, Holborn P.L., to be Librarian, Research and

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LEVER.—Mrs. J. Lever (*née Standen*), Assistant, Llandudno P.L., to be Senior Assistant, Thornton Heath Branch, Croydon P.L.

LEWIS.—Miss J. F. Lewis, Assistant, County Seely Library, Isle of Wight, to be Assistant-in-charge, West Wight Branch, County Seely Library.

MCDONALD.—Miss C. T. McDonald, A.L.A., Assistant, Manchester P.L., to be Librarian-in-charge, Circulation Dept., Wilts. Co.L. Hq.

MARSH.—Miss A. S. Marsh, B.A., F.L.A., Assistant, Nottingham Univ. L., to be Assistant Librarian, King's College, London.

MARSHALL.—Miss D. Marshall, B.A., F.L.A., Wilton Regional Librarian, Wilts. Co.L., to resign.

MASON.—Miss M. Mason, Library Assistant, Thornton Cleveleys Region, to be Assistant Librarian, Lancs. Co.L. Hq.

MAYOH.—Miss P. Mayoh, Assistant, Bolton P.L., to be Library Assistant, Peel Park Technical College, Salford.

MORLEY.—Mr. A. M. Morley, A.L.A., Senior Assistant, Sheerness Branch, Kent Co.L., to be Chief Cataloguer, Swindon P.L.

MURTON.—Miss J. M. Murton, B.A., Senior Assistant, Nottingham P.L., to be Principal Assistant, Bury St. Edmunds P.L.

NASH.—Mrs. J. A. Nash, A.L.A., Branch Librarian, Kimberworth Park Branch Library, Rotherham P.L., to be Children's Librarian, Rotherham P.L.

OFFOR.—Dr. R. Offor, B.A., F.L.A., Library Adviser to the Inter-University Council for Higher Education in the Colonies, to retire. (Dr. Offor is Librarian Emeritus of the Brotherton Library, Leeds.)

PAGE.—Miss P. Page, A.L.A., Chief Cataloguer, County Seely Library, Isle of Wight, to retire.

PARKER.—Miss M. Parker, Assistant, Peterborough P.L., to be Mobile Librarian, Spalding District, Lindsey and Holland Co.L.

PRIDMORE.—Mr. P. Pridmore, B.A., A.L.A., Senior Assistant, Nottingham P.L., to be Assistant Librarian, King's College, Newcastle upon Tyne.

PROCTER.—Mrs. G. A. Procter (*née Long*), A.L.A., Children's Librarian, Gillingham P.L., has resigned.

PYMAN.—Miss H. N. Pyman, A.L.A., Senior Assistant, Ilford P.L., to be Children's Librarian, Cheltenham P.L.

RICHARDS.—Mr. D. F. Richards, A.L.A., Lending Librarian, Oldham P.L., to be Senior Assistant and Reference Librarian, Warrington P.L.

SIMPSON.—Miss J. Simpson, Cataloguing Assistant, Keighley P.L., to be Children's Librarian.

SMART.—Miss W. J. Smart, A.L.A., Senior Assistant, Manchester P.L., to be Senior Assistant, Bristol P.L.

SMITH.—Miss J. Smith, Assistant, Sunbury-on-Thames Branch, Middlesex Co.L., to be Assistant, Clerk's Library, Bank of England.

STILL.—Miss P. M. Still, Assistant, G.E.C. Research Laboratories Library, N. Wembley, to be Assistant Librarian, National Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Wrest Park, Silsoe, Beds.

THOMAS.—Miss M. I. Thomas, Assistant, Llandudno P.L., to be Librarian, Coleg Harlech.

TOMLINSON.—Miss J. R. Tomlinson, Assistant Cataloguer, Notts. Co.L., to be Senior Assistant, West Bridgford Region, Notts. Co.L.

WALKER.—Mr. J. R. A. Walker, Senior Assistant, Cambridgeshire Co.L. Hq., to be Head of Cataloguing Section, English Electric Library, Leicester.

WATCHURST.—Mr. E. G. Watchurst, A.L.A., Technical Librarian, British Oxygen Research and Development Ltd., to be Librarian, Metal Box Co. Ltd., Acton.

WOMERSLEY.—Miss V. Womersley, A.L.A., Assistant, Commercial and Technical Library, Newcastle upon Tyne P.L., to resign.

WOODS.—Mr. W. T. W. Woods, F.L.A., Chief Assistant, Thurrock P.L., to be Borough Librarian, Fleetwood P.L.

WORTON.—Miss P. G. Worton, Assistant, Dagenham P.L., to be Assistant, Hornchurch Branch, Essex Co.L.

WYATT.—Mr. R. W. P. Wyatt, B.A., F.L.A., Branch Librarian, Mitcham P.L., to be Tutor-Librarian, Farnborough Technical College, Farnborough, Hants.

WYLES.—Miss B. Wyles, B.Sc., A.L.A., Senior Assistant, Manchester P.L., to be Assistant Librarian, U.K.A.E.A. Library, Springfields Works, Salwick.

YEATES.—Mr. J. F. Yeates, F.L.A., Deputy Borough Librarian, Beckenham P.L., to be States Librarian, Jersey.

YEATS-EDWARDS.—Mr. P. E. H. Yeats-Edwards, Assistant-in-charge, West Wight Branch, County Seely Library, Isle of Wight, to be Senior Assistant, Cambridge-shire Co.L.

YOUNG.—Mrs. R. D. E. Young, F.L.A., Deputy Librarian, Chertsey P.L., to resign.

*Contributions and communications (including advertisements) should be sent to the Editor, Chaucer House, Malet Place, London, W.C.1, by the 15th of the month preceding that of publication (Tel. Eus. 5856 ext. 9)*

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### ROYAL SOCIETY

Applications are invited for the post of **ASSISTANT** in the Library of The Royal Society. Duties will include the calendaring and care of the Society's Archives as well as general library work. Typing essential, interest in the history of science desirable. Applicants should be aged under 35. Salary in the range of £800-£1,000 per annum. Contributory pension scheme in operation. Applications indicating age, details of education, and experience should be submitted to the Assistant Secretary, The Royal Society, Burlington House, London, W.1, on or before 1st January, 1960.

### NATIONAL COLLEGE FOR HEATING, VENTILATING, REFRIGERATION AND FAN ENGINEERING

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Application form may be obtained from F. J. Packer, Clerk to the Governors.

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- Acta Archaeologica. Universitas Lodzienensis.  
Nos. 4 and 5, 1956. No. 6, 1958.  
The Chinese Journal of Archaeology.  
From No. 11, Spring, 1956 to date (4 numbers a year).  
Bulletin de l'Institut Archéologique Leigeois.  
1949 to 1952. 1955 56. 1957 58.  
Chronique Archéologique. 1950 and 1953.  
Casopis zemského v Brně (Acta Musei Maraviae).  
1950. 1951. 1954.  
Slovenska Akademija Znanosti in Umetnosti.  
Archeološki vestnik. Acta Archaeologica. v. 1,  
1954 to date.  
Dissertationes. 1957.  
Archeoloske ostaline. v. Predjami. 1956.  
Letopis. 1954. 1955. 1956. 1957.  
Magyar . . . Budapest.  
Folia Archeologica. 1954.  
Archeologické rozhledy. Československá Akademie  
věd.  
1953 to date.  
Zprávy Anthropologické společnosti.  
1948 to 1953.  
Acta Scient. Hungaricae.  
Acta Archeologica. 1951 to date.  
Acta Antiqua. 1951 to 1954.  
Fornvännen. Meddelanden från K. Vitterhets  
Historie.  
Antikvitets Akademien. 1950 to date.  
Bulletin de la Société Royale des lettres de Lund.  
1948 to 1955.  
De Vrije Fries.  
1950. 1953. 1957.  
Sovetskaya Arkeologiya.  
vols. VIII, 1946 to vol. X, 1948.  
vol. XII, 1950 to date.  
Smithsonian Institution. The United States National  
Museum Annual Reports. 1941 to date.  
Arch. Museum of Istria (Yugoslavia).  
Jadranski Zbornik. Pula. I. 1956.  
The Amphitheatre in Pula. 1957.  
Ancient Pula. 1958.

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